

Gorbachev assaults Yeltsin

Mikhail Gorbachev accused popular leader Boris Yeltsin of abandoning Socialist principles and "overstepping the limits of democracy." Back from his nuclear tests, Gorbachev was in Moscow to attend a performance during a debate on "sovereignty" or autonomy of regions and social power of states, the largest of the conference's assemblies. Yeltsin, who has attacked Gorbachev for pursuing reforms, has decided to skip the parliament Tuesday. He is standing for re-election as chairman of the Soviet Union, but he is being challenged by a former Soviet Prime Minister, Valentin Chernenko, who has attacked Gorbachev for pursuing reforms. The debate will be followed by election of the new Soviet Prime Minister, who has attacked Gorbachev for pursuing reforms. The debate will be followed by election of the new Soviet Prime Minister, Valentin Chernenko, who has attacked Gorbachev for pursuing reforms. The debate will be followed by election of the new Soviet Prime Minister, Valentin Chernenko, who has attacked Gorbachev for pursuing reforms.

"The debate is aimed at exposing the contradictions between the Soviet Union and its members," Gorbachev told more than 1,000 delegates. "There was not a single member of the Soviet Union who supported Yeltsin's name for the republic. 'For us Soviets, all symbols of our country, the socialist choice, the power of the Soviets are not just pictures. These are our fundamental values, our benchmarks.'

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AMMAN THURSDAY-FRIDAY, MAY 24-25, SHAWWAL 28-29, 1410

Palestinians stage protest in New York

NEW YORK (AP) — Palestinian protesters fought police at the door of the Israeli consulate as they tried to storm the building in a demonstration. Nine police officers and eight demonstrators were injured in the emotional melee Tuesday, according to police and hospital officials. Nine demonstrators were arrested, said Ed Burns, a police spokesman. "Free Palestine from master" and "Stop killing Palestinian children" yelled some of the hundreds of Palestinians, including women and children, according to Said Elastab, a freelance photographer at the scene. About a dozen employees were inside the building, including consul general Uri Savir. He said more than 300 demonstrators, mostly in their teens and 20s, yelled anti-Israeli slogans. The protesters, most of whom live in the New York area, said they were angered by Israeli government actions toward Palestinians. Elastab said. Some of them had family members who were killed or arrested as a result of recent violence in the occupied territories, he said.

Violence continues in Pakistani city

HYDERABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Snipers opened fire during a brief curfew break Wednesday, killing six people and wounding 27 on the ninth consecutive day of ethnic-related violence, police said. Authorities relaxed the curfew for two hours Wednesday afternoon to allow residents in Hyderabad, a city of three million, to buy food and return to their business for a while, police said. About 10 minutes before the curfew was reimposed, snipers began shooting from rooftops throughout the city, police said. The victims included a young girl, they said. Indefinite curfews were imposed as violence spread. Security forces were ordered to shoot violators.

U.S. Iran end round of talks

THE HAGUE (R) — Iran and the United States Wednesday ended three days of talks on an \$11-billion claim by Tehran over U.S. military contracts broken after the 1979 Iranian revolution, a U.S. diplomat said. Neither U.S. nor Iranian officials would indicate if there had been progress in the talks. But they said a fresh round of negotiations between U.S. State Department Legal Adviser Abraham Sofaer and his Iranian counterpart Gholamreza Javani would be held in a few weeks. The claim is the largest pending in the Iran-U.S. claims tribunal set up nine years ago in The Hague to determine who was left owing what after the two countries broke diplomatic ties after the revolution.

AMU launches contest for flag and anthem

TUNIS (R) — The Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) launched a contest Wednesday to design a flag and compose an anthem for the group linking Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia. Contests have until June 10 to submit ideas, according to a statement issued by the group's presidency currently held by Tunisia. The union, created in February last year at a summit in the southern Moroccan city of Marrakesh, is designed as an economic community.

Tunis police stop Palestinian protest

TUNIS (R) — Tunisian police stopped Palestinians from delivering protest against the killings of Arabs in the occupied territories to the British and French embassies in Tunis Wednesday. Witnesses said police forced away a delegation of Palestinian workers, students and women unions as it neared the British embassy and had earlier forced them away from French mission. The delegation had earlier succeeded in delivering the protest to the American embassy.

The letter, sent to the Arab League,

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جريدة الأردن تنشر يومية سياسية تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية (الرأي)

Socialists condemn Israeli practices

CAIRO (Agencies) — Socialist International Wednesday condemned Israeli practices in the occupied Jerusalem and urged self-determination and statehood for the Palestinians if they wish. Salman Peres, a former Israeli prime minister, reportedly objected to stronger versions of the statehood plank in the Socialist International council's resolution on the Middle East. He finally joined the consensus, the first time a ranking Israeli politician has accepted in a formal document the possibility of a Palestinian state. The resolution, accepted at the end of the council's plenum meeting, also calls on the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to amend its charter to guarantee the secure existence of Israel. Sources close to the deliberations told the Associated Press draft resolution was redrawn twice and debated three times before delegate Peres, head of Israel's Labour Party, was persuaded to go along. The Socialist resolution called for a halt in Israel's destruction of Palestinian homes in the occupied territories, and an end to expulsions, settler violence and brutality. "Jewish settlements in the occupied territories contravene U.N. resolutions and the Geneva conventions. They are illegal," it said.

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

King briefed on Mubarak visits

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein was Wednesday briefed on the outcome of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's recent visits to Oman, China and the Soviet Union as well as his talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Mubarak's Political Advisor Osama Al Eaz, who arrived here earlier in the day, briefed the King on the president's talks with the leaders of the countries

which he visited recently, with particular focus on Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Thatcher.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Madar Badran, Royal Court Chief Sheriff Zeid Ben Shaker, the King's Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh and the Egyptian ambassador to Jordan.

Jordan marks Independence Day

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Friday celebrates the 44th anniversary of its independence from Britain.

Independence came on May 25, 1946, fulfilling one of the objectives of the Great Arab Revolt, which began early this century with the aim of liberating Arab countries from foreign domination.

On the eve of the anniversary, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, issued a statement outlining Jordan's achievements in development and its efforts in the service of Arab causes on pan-Arab and international fronts under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein.

Petra reviewed developments on the political front and Jordan's continued efforts to the occupied Arab lands. It reaffirmed the Kingdom was seeking to find a lasting and honourable settlement to the Middle East conflict through an international peace conference for the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions.

The anniversary, the statement said, "reminds the Jordanian people of their task of maintaining cohesion and national unity in the face of dangers represented in the continued Jewish immigration into Palestine and Israel's repressive measures against the Palestinian people."

The statement recalled the Kingdom's firm support for the Palestinian people's rights and the Iraqi people in their defense against Iranian aggression.

To mark the occasion the government announced Thursday to be observed as a public holiday during which all government departments and public institutions will remain closed.

Security Council to hear Arafat in Geneva

Israelis bar Arab entry to Jerusalem, maintain curfew

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israel barred Palestinians of the occupied West Bank from Jerusalem Wednesday while celebrating the seizure of the eastern half of the Holy City in 1967.

Soldiers maintained a fourth day of curfews on the Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. The measure was an attempt to contain the widespread protests triggered by a massacre of eight Arab workers

were Tel Aviv Sunday.

In the protests since the slayings by a lone Israeli gunman, 22 Palestinians have died in clashes with soldiers. More than 300 others have been shot, beaten or suffered tear-gas inhalation.

On Wednesday, two Palestinians were wounded in stone-throwing incidents, Arab reports said.

Witnesses said security forces turned back workers from the West Bank, home to one million Palestinians, and the army kept a curfew outside the gate. Nobody was hurt in the incident.

The Soviet Union accused Israel Tuesday of instigating widespread violence against Palestinians and de-

manded swift international action to protect residents of the occupied territories.

A Soviet Foreign Ministry statement said Israeli troops were acting with "particular cruelty" since Sunday's massacre of Palestinian laborers, TASS, the official news agency, reported.

The Soviet Union resolutely denounces the criminal actions of the Israeli militants and demands an immediate end to the violence," the statement said.

"It is vital to adopt effective measures, including within the U.N., to defend the Palestinian population in the occupied territories."

The PLO will never consider arming Arabs in the West Bank and Gaza Strip because it would give Israel an excuse to use lethal weapons against them, a Palestinian official said in remarks published Wednesday.

"The organization will absolutely not consider turning the uprising in the occupied lands into an armed uprising," Salih Khalaf told the Agence France Presse.

PLO leader Yasser Arafat will call for the immediate stationing of the United Nations troops in the Israeli-occupied territories when he addresses

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U.S. message stirs trouble at Arab talks in Baghdad

and to Arab governments, asked Iraq to "moderate both its actions and its rhetoric" and said the other Arab states should try to persuade Baghdad there was no U.S.-led conspiracy to "cut Iraq down to size."

"We have legitimate concerns, however, about Iraq's attempts to break U.S. law and its irresponsible statements on the use of missiles and chemical weapons," the letter added.

The Kremlin's message dealt mainly with the issue of Soviet emigration and Arab fears that the emigrants would be settled on the occupied lands.

Soviet diplomatic sources, requesting anonymity, confirmed the message and only that it contained "wishes for the success of the summit," set for Monday.

Mohammed Abbas, a member of the PLO's Executive Committee, flew to Thawra published the full text of the letter in Arabic and delegated to the foreign minister meeting showed PLO's English original.

The United States last month accused Iraq of trying to smuggle U.S.-made devices that Washington said could be used as triggers to nuclear weapons to Baghdad in violation of U.S. law. Baghdad says the devices were for laser research.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein later said his country had produced binary chemical weapons and warned that Iraq would use them to retaliate if the "enemies" attacked Iraq.

An Iraqi delegate to the ministerial meeting preparing for the summit said "from the tone of the letter you can see that Washington is treating the Arab leaders as preparatory school children."

The memorandum said Washington "denied Iraq's adherence to international accords banning the use of biological and chemical weapons."

It said Arabs should not insist on a nuclear-free Middle East as a precondition for removing the threat of a chemical warfare.

"In short, they are telling Israel 'you can go ahead and build nuclear bombs' but the Arabs have no right to

develop even defensive weapons," a senior official attending the conference commented.

Other sources said the Soviet leadership has sent a message to the

ministers.

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The memorandum said Washington

called the emergency summit to orga-

nize concerted action against the mass

influx of Soviet Jews to Israel.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz,

at a Tuesday night debate on a message to the U.S.-Soviet summit in Washington at the end of the month, pressed for strong language against what he said was a U.S. attempt to

dictate Arab policy, delegates said.

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Peaceful protests in several areas; Hittin normal after violence

Calm takes hold in most troublespots

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Scattered anti-Israeli demonstrations were reported in refugee camps in and near Amman Wednesday, but calm generally took hold in most troublespots where protests sparked by Israeli actions in the occupied territories had led to violent clashes with security police Monday and Tuesday.

Parliament members, leftist groups, the Muslim Brotherhood party, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and other popular organisations added to earlier appeals for calm and peaceful demonstrations issued by the government and the legislative body.

In most camps in and around the capital as well as other parts of the Kingdom, security forces "did not have to intervene to disperse the marchers Wednesday since almost all of them were peaceful and none of the protesters resorted to violence," a senior police source told the Jordan Times. However, violent clashes were later reported from the Hittin camp, about 20

kilometres northeast of Amman, where demonstrators attacked public buildings. A reporter from the scene said at least two people were killed in Wednesday, raising the toll in the camp to three since Monday. Only one of Wednesday's deaths was officially confirmed by police. Another fatality, occurred Tuesday, was caused by "gunfire from a weapon not used by police," an official statement said.

Calm was restored to the camp late Wednesday after intervention by at least five Parliament members — Leith Shebelat, Bassem Haddadin, Mohammad Al Haj, Deeb Anis and Ziad Mahfouz, the reporter telephoned from Hittin. The deputies as well as leaders of the camp appealed to residents to remain calm and refrain from resorting to violence, he said.

The police source in Amman confirmed that arrests were made of several people who had attacked and damaged public property, including cars, in various areas but all had been released by Wednesday afternoon.

The source refused to comment on reports that "several organised groups" were behind the violent flare-ups Monday and Tuesday.

Small groups of demonstrators,

mostly schoolchildren and young boys and girls, staged protest rallies in several camps bedecked with black flags in mourning for Palestinians buried in the occupied territories, and a group of about 200 protesters were dispersed at the Ministry of Interior Circle Wednesday noon.

Schools and universities in the northern town resumed normal activities and most students were back in their classes, witnesses said.

Police were on full alert at Ruseifa, where a group said to number several hundred staged a demonstration Tuesday night and went on a rampage and attacked at least three restaurants and burned down one of them after "taking arms in stock of alcohol," sources said. But no violent incidents were reported Wednesday.

Protest rallies held by students in Amman's Al Hussein and Al Wihda camps proceeded peacefully. Shortly after the protest march was dispersed by the Ministry of Interior Circle, a large group of mostly women and schoolgirls in uniforms staged a rally through the streets of the camp shouting anti-Israeli slogans and carrying Jordanian and Palestinian flags as well as black flags.

A woman fully clad in black cloth and a veil led the march with chants of "Allah Akbar" and "With our blood and soul we will redeem our martyrs."

Children ranging from five to 15 took part in the rally, which dispersed peacefully after about one

hour. In Irbid, where a 14-year-old boy was killed in clashes Tuesday, normalize was reported after the boy's family buried him in the same grave as his grandfather in the early hour of Wednesday.

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U.S. said ready to take more Soviets

CAIRO (Agencies) — U.S. President George Bush told Egyptian leader Hosni Mubarak Wednesday that the United States was taking steps to open its doors to Soviet Jewish immigrants, an Egyptian presidential spokesman said.

"Bush conveyed during his (telephone) conversation... the message that the United States will never consider arming Arabs in the West Bank and Gaza Strip because it would give Israel an excuse to use lethal weapons against them," a Palestinian official told Reuters.

"The Jewish immigration threatens to blow up the peace march and put the whole region on the verge of a new bloody confrontation," Mubarak said.

Israel's Foreign Minister Moshe Arens Wednesday rejected the assertion, saying on Israel Radio: "I am ready to assume that the intentions were the best but everyone in Israel and in

Palestinians blame Israeli policies for massacre, protests

TEL AVIV (AP) — Palestinian leaders say the hard-line policies of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir have created an atmosphere of hatred that incites anti-Arab extremism, such as last weekend's slaying of seven Palestinian workers by an Israeli.

They charge that Israel's "iron fist" handling of the 29-month Palestinian uprising and its failure to launch peace talks have increased anti-Arab sentiments. Israelis who attack Palestinians face lenient punishment, they add.

"There is no doubt that the Israeli government led by Shamir ... leads to such catastrophe," pro-PLO leader Faisal Husseini told the Associated Press. "The atmosphere created by such a government is responsible."

But Shamir and his supporters argue that Sunday's incident was the act of a deranged man. They also accuse Palestinians of using the massacre to rekindle the flagging rebellion against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Anyone wishing to see in this mad murder an expression of Israeli government policy and intentions is maliciously and viciously distorting the picture," Shamir told parliament members from his right-wing Likud Bloc at a meeting Tuesday.

He pledged that his government would pursue peace efforts

in the Middle East but added: "We don't want to live by our sword, but we shall not be quick in throwing it out as long as it allows us to live in security."

Shamir has headed a caretaker government since Likud's coalition with the dovish Labour Party collapsed on March 15 over Labour's insistence on land-for-peace negotiations with the Palestinians. Shamir and his supporters oppose any compromise on territory.

Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's deputy foreign minister, said in an interview that the U.S. State Department's call for restraint in handling Palestinian protests that have followed the massacre was "understandable but unwarranted."

"I think the U.S. government and American people understand that this was a tragedy we had nothing to do with and that we are doing everything we can to restore tranquility," Netanyahu said.

Until now, Israeli policy makers are still threatening to intensify measures against Palestinians, more "iron fist" policy," Kanaan said.

He accused the Palestine Li-

beration Organisation (PLO) and other Palestinian groups of "fan-

ning the flames and sustaining the

violence."

Thirteen Palestinians have been killed by Israeli troops in three days of protests, most in the occupied Gaza Strip. More than 800 others have been injured.

The death toll raised to 708 the number of Palestinians killed by Israeli soldiers or civilians since the start of the uprising in December 1987.

"Condemnations from politicians aren't enough," Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij told Israel Radio. "What is needed are jail sentences for people who commit such crimes against Arabs."

Israel's performance in pursuing anti-Arab assault cases has been mixed, according to the Israeli human rights group Betselem.

Saeed Kanaan, a leading pro-PLO businessman from the West Bank, said that the violence that has followed the Rishon Lezion killings was not orchestrated by Palestinian leaders.

"It is a spontaneous reaction, and I fear there will be an escalation once curfews are lifted," Kanaan said.

He criticised the government for a total stalemate in the peace process" and accused Shamir's Likud and other right-wing parties of "creating an atmosphere of hatred, of segregation" between Jews and Arabs.

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Home News

JESORS markets Jordan River water successfully

By Iman Naseem
Jordan Times Staff Writer



AMMAN — It was the initiative of a Jordanian visitor to London who saw a vial labelled "holy water" that gave rise to the idea of mass export of water from the River Jordan to the Christian faithful around the world.

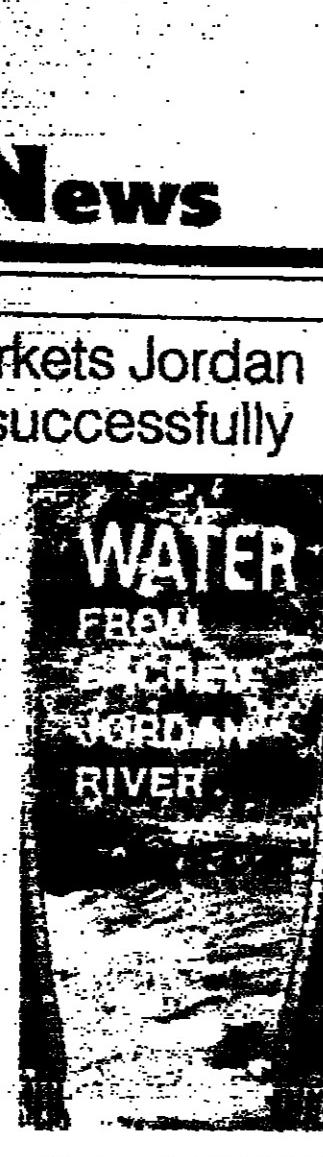
Now, four years and hundreds of thousands of bottles later, the organisation which picked up on the London visitor's idea is not looking back, with export orders of an average of 50,000 to 60,000 bottles a month from Europe and the United States, bringing about \$60,000 to \$75,000 a month in much-needed foreign currency.

The Jordan Economic and Social Organisation of Retired Servicemen (JESORS), which says it aims more at offering employment opportunities to retired armed forces and security personnel than making profit, has set up a separate wing for the bottling operation.

The bottling process at a farm-owned by JESORS mostly involves manual work except for a few mechanised stages — filtering the water and washing and filling the bottles — according to Ahmad Qasem, JESORS commercial manager.

"Even the bottles are hand-made (blown)," Qasem told the Jordan Times in an interview, displaying an array of small vials in different shapes. The transparent glass bottles are decoratively painted or embossed, differing in shapes from Urn to Ewer. Qasem explained that certain customers demand particular shapes and designs and JESORS tries its best to meet the specifications.

The water is used for baptism. The wrapping paper around the bottles has verses from the Bible in six languages and the seal of the "victims"



AACO meeting adopts plan of activity for 1990

By Iman Naseem
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Arab Air Carriers Organisation (AACO) ended a two-day meeting at Amman Plaza Hotel Wednesday by approving a unified, comprehensive distribution system for Arab airlines and an AACO's programme of activities for 1990.

A final statement issued by the meeting, attended by delegates from 18 Arab airlines, said that agreement was also reached on a project for financing the purchase and lease of aircraft for the Arab airlines.

Following the final session Royal Jordanian (RJ) Chief Executive Officer Husein Abu Ghazaleh, and the organisation's Secretary General Adil Dajani addressed a press conference in which they gave further details about the plans and stressed the need for joint efforts in the face of major mergers of European airlines in 1992 and the challenges posed by developments in the air

Tourism Ministry committed to ensure safety of tourists

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ministry of Tourism has reached agreement with representatives of tourist and travel offices in Jordan and the concerned authorities on measures that would ensure the security of tourists visiting the Kingdom, according to Tourism Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabir.

The concerned parties also reached agreement on the implementation of a plan designed to intensify marketing of Jordanian tourist attractions in the coming winter season in cooperation with the mass media and Jordanian embassies abroad," the minister said following a meeting held at the Ministry of Tourism Wednesday.

The meeting was attended by representatives of tourism offices with whom the minister conducted an assessment of the tourism activities during the winter

and spring seasons which end on May 31, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The meeting followed this week's incident in which a Palestinian gunman, Ahmad Badwan, attacked a group of 32 French tourists in central Amman, injuring at least nine including a Jordanian photographer with the group.

The injured tourists were treated at local hospitals and later joined the group in their tour programme around the Kingdom.

According to Kabir, the meeting Wednesday discussed plans for the winter tourist season which begins here in October. Before the meeting Kabir toured hotels in Amman, visited the Jordan Express Tourist and Transport Company (JETT) and discussed programmes for transporting tourists to archaeological and tourist sites in Jordan.

Gaddafi verdict postponed

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Sharia court has postponed until Saturday the verdict in a case of a Jordanian accused of being a member of the outlawed Gaddafi sect. The court's judge, Khaled Oureiqat, told the Jordan Times that the postponement was warranted by the appointment of a lawyer by the accused, journalist and writer Ibrahim Abu Naib, and the indisposition of the absent prosecutor-general to attend Wednesday's court session.

ACC countries determined to protect environment

AMMAN (Petra) — A technical committee set up by the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries ended a meeting in Amman Wednesday concluding a draft agreement on cooperation in ways of protecting the environment.

The committee chairman Awad Al Tal said the draft agreement, which was still to be approved by the ministers of environment in Egypt, Iraq, Yemen and Jordan, provided for drawing up a comprehensive system on the protection of the environment, encompassing standards recognised regionally and internationally.

"The four countries are also called on to conduct research

determining the types of pollutants and ways of combating pollution, to exchange expertise and information related to the protection of the environment and to unify terms and regulations used in this respect," Tal said.

Tal, who is also secretary general of the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, said the agreement paves the way for the four ACC countries to undertake efforts for a regional environmental strategy covering ways for combating desertification, cooperation with other countries in the region in the utilisation of water resources and spreading awareness among the Arab population on ways of

protecting the environment.

According to Tal a joint ACC committee charged with coordinating matters among the four countries regarding local government and municipal affairs will begin a two-day meeting in Amman Thursday.

"Working papers will be reviewed and matters related to city planning, architecture, municipal affairs and urban development will be discussed by the committee members," Tal said.

The committee is also scheduled to review ways for unifying legislation in the ACC countries to cater for closer cooperation among the four countries in municipal affairs.

Music — a universal language

AMMAN (J.T.) — An Emmy-winning documentary on Jordan and Egypt will be shown on Jordan Television on Independence Day (Friday, 25 May 1990, Channel 2, 8:30 p.m.).

The 58-minute video, entitled Classical Caravan, a State of the Art Special, shot during a tour of the region in October 1988 by the Chamber Symphony of Princeton, was given the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences 1990 Award (the Emmy) for best sound. It was co-produced by New Jersey Network (NIN) and the New Jersey Council on the Arts, Ad NIN crew, headed by producer Anisa Mehdi, director Louis Presti and sound engineer Joseph Coalier followed the 30 musicians from the concert halls of the two Arab capitals to the ancient carved city of Petra and the pyramids of Giza.

The documentary is "as much about the ordinary people of the Middle East as it is about the universal language of music," according to NIN.

The Princeton musicians were invited to Jordan by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation's National Music Conservatory, which encourages cultural exchange to fire the imagination of Jordanians young and old.

This is the universality of music, says Mark Laycock, conductor and music director of the Princeton symphony. "We don't speak the same language, but we can communicate through music," Laycock says. "Music

bonded or hearts and souls together."

The tour was conceived and organised by Communications Strategies (COMSTRAT), a media consultancy based in Paoli, Pennsylvania, who arranged for NIN to cover the events of the tour.

"We're proud of the crew and grateful that the show has received this honour for work done here in Jordan where we've been trying to help encourage the interest in good music and good sound," according to Comstrat President Irvin S. Yeaworth, who is in Amman in connection with a project to promote tourism to Jordan.

Music is perhaps the best cultural bridge between nations. At the Palace of Culture in Amman, the Princeton musicians played Mozart's Symphony No. 40 in G Minor in a joint performance with the Symphony Orchestra of the Jordan Armed Forces and students of the National Music Conservatory. Earlier in rehearsal the Jordanians in military garb, holding violins, are seen playing alongside the American musicians in mutual concentration and pleasure.

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transport industry.

According to Dajani, the comprehensive distribution system will be applied in 10 Arab countries which endorsed the project in October 1990. "This is a major project because it is bound to facilitate booking and ensure better services," Dajani said.

He said that "Galileo distribution system" which will cost \$25 million had been selected from among three other international distribution systems.

Abu Ghazaleh reviewed the organisation's activities and said that Arab airlines possess 372 aircraft collectively and employ 93,000 staff. "These aircraft annually transport 30 million passengers and nearly 700,000 tonnes of goods around the world," he said.

Abu Ghazaleh disclosed that the airlines of the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries plan to establish an airline to carry passengers and from cities and not only capitals of the four countries.

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The meeting called to study steps to be taken in the face of the challenges posed to the nation in the coming decade and the 21st century. It reviewed 11 working papers all dealing with economic issues and ideas for economic integration, according to the statement.

The recommendations called

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The recommendations

Jordan Times

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Back on track

THE elements that tried in vain to divert world attention from Black Sunday's massacre against the Palestinians in Israel and the occupied territories deserve the contempt of the entire country. The indignation expressed by the vast majority of Jordanians at the attempts of these elements to either block major arteries of the country, attack public security personnel or destroy private or public property is a clear sign that the country is wide awake to the designs and conspiracies of such saboteurs whose only aim is to serve the objectives of the enemies of the Arab Nation. The speed with which the Kingdom has acted to frustrate the aims and objectives of these people has won the praise and support of the overwhelming majority of Jordanians and Palestinians alike. True, security forces did overreact in some cases, given that the majority of demonstrators were expressing their genuine anger and frustration over the Israeli atrocities against the Palestinians. But the cooperation between the people and the government to contain the damage that ensued from the actions of the misguided elements proved beyond a shadow of doubt that this country is ready and able to defend itself and preserve its democratic march and national unity. Now the focus of the attention of the international community can revert to where it should have been kept in the first place and that is on Israel's genocidal acts in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. For a while the Israelis were accorded a respite from the world's condemnation on a silver platter and they might have even entertained the hope that the world would be preoccupied by the events that were taking place in Jordan over the past few days. But it remains to be seen what the international community is willing to do in the face of mounting Israeli oppression in the occupied territories. Of course no amount of tear-shedding is enough to compel Israel into heeding the counsel of wisdom and start negotiating with the Palestinian people on the foundation of legitimacy and justice. What is actually needed is for the Arabs themselves to stand tall and united in this difficult hour. The world will have to follow if the Arab leaders meeting in Baghdad next Monday decide to stop their infighting and inaction in favour of a concerted, unified effort. What matters in the end is whether the Arabs themselves want to learn how to call the shots.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

AL RA'I Arabic daily commented on the violent demonstrations in Jordan over the past two days in which there was loss of life and damage to property. The paper said that while the Arabs in general and the Palestinians in particular witness continued Jewish immigration into Palestine, and while the Israelis continue to escalate repression on the Arabs, Jordanians ought to work towards saving, not shedding blood and towards solidarity rather than disunity and chaos. The paper noted that Israel wants to see a weak Kingdom, incapable of extending support and help to the Palestinian people and unable to fend off Zionist aggression. We are pained to see violence taking place in Jordan while we watch our brothers and sisters being killed and oppressed by the Zionist enemy in Palestine, the paper continued. Now that the Jordanian people have expressed their deep pain and sorrow over the loss of innocent life in occupied Arab territories, the paper said, one should be very careful not to allow the common enemy to achieve his objectives; and therefore everything possible should be done to thwart enemy plans and maintain national unity which is the real criteria that proves our love for Palestine and for Jordan."

It was natural for Jordanian citizens to go out into the streets and manifest their real anger and indignation over the assassination of their brothers in the occupied Arab lands last Sunday, says the editor of Al Ra'I Arabic daily in a column Wednesday. Mahmoud Al Kayed says that although Jordanians wish to express their solidarity with their brothers and sisters, they should at the same time realize that no rash and irresponsible actions can serve the Palestine cause. The writer asks: What is the use of blocking roads in Jordanian streets or burning tyres in city squares or causing damage to other people's property? Only a strong, united Jordan can be of help to Palestine and the Palestinian people, and only a steadfast people can lend support and assistance to their brethren elsewhere, the writer continues. Jordan, the writer adds, is going through very difficult and dangerous circumstances which call for cooperation and coordination on the part of all citizens and all institutions; and every one should be considered responsible for the safety and security of the Kingdom. The writer pays tribute to the security forces who exercised utmost self-restraint in the face of violence and commends the work of the professional unions which tried to help enhance national unity while rallying support for the Palestinian people.

Al Dostour daily described the merger of the two Yemens into one state as a major event in Arab history. Indeed the unity announced Tuesday represents a serious and constructive step on the part of the Yemeni people towards the aspired goal of pan-Arab unity, the paper noted. The removal of borders created by the colonial powers within the Arab World should be considered as a great victory for the Arab masses; and the end of divisions should be regarded as a real step towards the emergence of a strong, united entity, the paper said. What the Yemenis achieved Tuesday, the paper added, should give new hope and a new optimistic outlook for the future.

AIPAC: Jewish intimidator of U.S. politicians

By John Law

LAST January, Senate minority leader Robert Dole suggested that the time had come to redivide the pie of U.S. foreign aid in a way that would provide some needed funds for the emerging democracies of Eastern Europe. One way this could be done, Dole said, would be to reduce the aid allocations for the top recipient nation — Israel — as well as for the next four leading beneficiaries (Egypt, the Philippines, Turkey and Pakistan) by five per cent.

To administration officials and many other Americans, making a modest cut in aid, especially to Israel, didn't seem like such a bad idea. After all, wasn't Israel alone getting more than 25 per cent of the entire foreign aid budget? And wasn't it getting it at a time when the deficit-ridden U.S. government was having a serious problem funding important foreign and domestic programmes? Besides, what about Prime Minister Shamir's increasingly uncooperative stance in the "peace process"?

To many who were unfamiliar with the past record of Israel's official lobbyist, the America-Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), Dole's idea seemed to provide a good opportunity for AIPAC to score a few points with the voters by looking reasonable: accepting a very small reduction of aid to Israel on the grounds that this was in America's overall national interest.

Fear as an instrument

Allowing for the fact that portion of the senators may truly believe that aid to Israel should never be cut at any cost, the remainder were surely influenced by the effects of one of AIPAC's other rules of thumb: strike fear — fear of losing the next election — into the hearts of members of Congress. This instrument of intimidation is no bluff. AIPAC has successfully tipped the electoral scales against so many legislators who have offended its sensibilities on Israel that it has only to point

to the most recent victim and say, in effect, did the rest of you get our message?

Among the many examples of this technique was Dine's comment after the electoral defeat of the former chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Charles Percy, who after a long record of steady support for Israel came back from a trip to the Middle East and had the temerity to note that Arafat was "more moderate" than many other Palestinian leaders. After AIPAC led the fight to get Percy out of the Senate, Dine said: "All the Jews in America, coast to coast, gathered to oust Percy. And the American politicians — those who hold public positions and those who aspire — got the message." Similar comments came from AIPAC officials after the AIPAC-induced defeat of such political luminaries as Senator J. William Fulbright, Senator Adlai Stevenson III (in a race for governor), and Congressman Paul Findley and Paul McCloskey.

AIPAC also likes to shoot a warning shot across the bow of a politician who strays from — or even consider straying from — a pro-Israel path. When it heard in 1981 that Nebraska Senator Edward Zorinsky was leaning in favour of selling Awacs aircraft to Saudi Arabia, Dine telephoned him to say, "I can't stop you, but I wish you wouldn't, because I want you to have a good relationship with the pro-Israel community, and they are not

going to forget this one." Dine once said of AIPAC, during a speech: "Like the Indian elephant, we don't forget."

The power of Israel's lobby

AIPAC has the power to go to the bluster. It derives much of it from a skillful but — some say illegal — exploitation of the laws governing "political action committees" (PACs), which are permitted to give candidates of their choice up to \$5,000 for each of two elections (primary and general) during a given year. A political action committee is a funding organization that represents a special interest, generally having a clearly relevant name such as National Association of Realtors PAC, Teamsters Union PAC, American Medical Association PAC, National Education Association PAC and National Association of Federal Employees PAC (the nation's five biggest). But the Israeli lobby handles things differently.

AIPAC itself is not a PAC, but has developed a network of PACs which have names that do not appear to have any connection with Middle East issues — such as Desert Caucus PAC, Hudson Valley PAC, Washington PAC — but which are, in fact, devoted exclusively to funding pro-Israeli candidates, while taking their guidance from AIPAC. In many cases, officers of these organizations also sit on AIPAC's board of directors. Former government official

Richard Curtiss, in a recent book called *Stealth PACs*, has identified more than 100 of these pro-Israeli PACs, of whom 78 were active in the 1988 elections and donated more than \$5.4 to 477 candidates for Congress, more than any other special interest group.

AIPAC on campus

Being tough and nasty is not restricted to the legislative arena, AIPAC intimidates at the grass roots as well. At the nation's colleges it conducts workshops for pro-Israel campus activists, to show them, among other things, how to obstruct or even prevent the appearance of Arab or "pro-Arab" speakers on campus. Preventive measures that were once recommended to students by Jonathan Kessler, a former AIPAC workshop director who now is public affairs director of NatPAC, the largest pro-Israel PAC, included the suggestion that students "play to the racist tendencies of the American people" by telling police "you are afraid for your safety, or that the Arabs might get violent." If this approach doesn't get the event cancelled by the college administration, Kessler provided advice on how to heckle successfully and how to spread "disinformation." He said experience had shown that such tactics helped confuse the audience. So much for the "search for truth" in academia.

AIPAC's newsletter, *Near East Report*, which goes out to

every week, also appears to be keen on spreading disinformation. For example, it has a habit of attributing virtually any act of violence perpetrated by Palestinians — whether one of personal revenge or one carried out by a group hostile to the PLO — to "PLÖ terrorism." Its current coverage of the *intifada* focuses on what it calls the "infratada" — the hunting down by Palestinians of informers and others collaborating with Israeli officials — as though this were the major focus of active resistance by Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. Nor does it hesitate to add a dash of racist stereotyping now and then, although recent cartoon showing an Arab with his brain divided into compartments labelled "vengeance," "fanaticism," and "double-talk" drew so much criticism that AIPAC made a public apology.

The fact is, however, that most of AIPAC's intimidatory and disinformational tactics get played out behind closed doors: during a quiet visit with a Congressman, a private meeting with candidates, or a telephone conversation with an administration official. A senior AIPAC aide, Steve Rosen, once discussed in a memo the need to "reward friends and punish enemies," as well as to show politicians that "we are watching" while adding this caveat: "A lobby is a night flower: it thrives in the dark and dies in the sun."

Middle East International, London.

Arab countries look for new ties with Eastern Europe

By Tom Porteous

BERLIN — In East Berlin's diplomatic registry, the mission of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) is listed as the Embassy of the State of Palestine, and the mission's chief, Dr. Essam Kamal Salim, has the title of ambassador.

The fast-moving developments in Eastern Europe are being watched with considerable anxiety by Arab diplomats, analysts and policymakers, who are having to discard long-proven strategies and face new challenges. Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak has already established a commission to study the effect of the changes in Eastern Europe on the Arab world. The Arab League is conducting similar research.

"We have to put our Middle East policy into the framework of the democratic renewal in our country," explains Reiner Neumann, the director of the Middle East Division of the East German Foreign Ministry. Neumann is now negotiating with Israel, on the establishment of diplomatic relations between East Berlin and Tel Aviv.

"We have to have more balanced Middle East policy than we had in the past," says Neumann. "We have to accept the new realities." The old realities were that the Soviet Bloc almost automatically sided with Arab countries against Israel in the United Nations and elsewhere, that the bloc countries provided their allies in the Arab World with economic, military and technical aid and thousands of Arab students were granted places at universities and schools throughout Eastern Europe.

In addition, the East Bloc's secret services, such as East Germany's notorious Stasi, secretly provided weapons, training and intelligence to extremist groups,

. Furthermore, the gradual Soviet retreat from its Cold War stance in the Middle East has enabled Egypt, isolated for a decade because of its peace treaty with Israel, to resume a leading role in the Arab World. "The winners of the present situation are those who are able to find a way through dialogue to an understanding," said Neumann, clearly referring to Egypt's policy. "The losers will be those who will not be able to accept realities."

But even Arab countries that enjoy Western support, such as Egypt and Iraq, are worried about the effects of the changing face of Eastern Europe.

Moustapha Hannafi, Egypt's ambassador to East Berlin, predicts that Eastern Europe, with its lucrative new markets, cheap labour and attractive investment opportunities, is likely to divert Western aid and private investment from the Arab World. Egypt is one of several countries which are using Western loans to pay interest on previously incurred debt.

Arab diplomats in East Berlin are also concerned that as Western attention focuses on Eastern Europe, the Middle East will simply be shunted to the sidelines of the international agenda, just as the *intifada* — the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories of Gaza and the West Bank — has been pushed out of Western newspapers by Eastern European developments.

But by far the greatest Arab concern is the exodus of tens of thousands of Soviet Jews to Israel. However reasonable the intentions of the Soviet government in relaxing its emigration restrictions of Soviet Jews, Arab diplomats see the policy as a sad

symbol of Moscow's waning influence and shifting priorities in the Middle East.

The settlement of Soviet Jews in the occupied Arab territories is a particularly bitter blow precisely because it comes just as the Cold War is winding down, and an Arab consensus on peace talks is growing. One Arab diplomat in East Berlin angrily suggested that the settlement of Soviet Jews in the occupied territories was a deliberate Israeli move to prevent East-West cooperation from producing a peace settlement such as that brokered by the United Nations in Namibia.

"We are not the Arabs of the 19th century," he warned, "we are important economic and political partners. The interests of Europe are at stake in the Middle East."

Western Europe has long recognized that its interests are inextricably tied up with those of the Arab World. Arab diplomats hope that the new Eastern European governments will come to the same conclusion in spite of new pressures and priorities.

Arab diplomats in Berlin say that oil will become the key to new relationships between East

ern Europe and the Arab World as Soviet influence and now-discredited Communist economic policies become history. Until now, the Soviet Union has been the main source of oil for Eastern Europe. That is likely to change as the former Soviet satellites streamline their economies along competitive Western lines. Arab oil, which already gives the Arabs considerable political leverage in Western Europe, could become the lubricant of the Western-style consumer society for which East Europeans are impatient.

But the cautious optimism expressed by Arab diplomats and German experts in Berlin is tempered by worries that the rapidly changing global situation and the withdrawal of the superpowers from regional conflicts could increase, rather than reduce, the chances of another Middle East war.

While East-West cooperation offers a unique opportunity for peace in the Middle East, the shifting alignments brought about by the end of the Cold War have increased the political tension in that part of the world. And the arms buildup in the Middle East mean that another Arab-Israeli war would be terribly destructive.

"While Europe proceeds with disarmament, the Middle East's arsenals of conventional, chemical and even nuclear weapons are

growing very fast," said Neumann. "It is very worrying, and no one is doing anything stop it."

— World News Link.

Mutt'n Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Jordan Times WEEKENDER

Published Every Thursday

Thursday, May 24 A

New futuristic compound in Lyon houses Interpol

By Clare Pedrick

LYON, France — In the forgery section of Interpol's new glass and steel headquarters, a police officer is examining an example of the latest in counterfeiting techniques — a batch of U.S. dollar bills produced on a high-quality colour photocopier.

Farther down the hall, Serge Sabourin, head of operations in the drugs division, is studying a report of 3 tons of cocaine found in a Dutch port, hidden in a cargo of frozen orange juice.

A quick look through his computer records shows that the trick has been used before. U.S. customs officials discovered a consignment of cocaine concealed in a batch of concentrated mango juice coming into Florida. The information will be passed to the intelligence section to see if a connection can be made.

Interpol's secretary general is British, the chief of the police division is Japanese. Sabourin himself is a French-Belgian dual citizen. In all, 40 different nationalities are represented by the 80 officers working at the Lyon headquarters of Interpol, all of them proficient in at least two of the four official languages — English, French, Spanish and Arabic. Their job is to try to outfit an increasingly international brand of crooks and to keep one step ahead of the technology used by today's smartest criminal minds.

At present, the number of countries belonging to Interpol stands at 150. Secretary General Raymond Kendall, a former Scotland Yard official and Interpol's first non-French chief, hopes that the figure will soon be 151. He has just returned from a trip to Moscow, where he has been trying to convince Soviet police chiefs to join the organisation. Hungary, Yugoslavia, Romania and Bulgaria are already members. Poland has put in an application.

With investigations ranging

from prostitution rackets to homicide and from art thefts to organised crime, Interpol has far outstripped its original modest ambitions. An initial proposal made in 1914 led to an agreement between 14 countries to set up an international criminal records office and to coordinate extradition procedures.

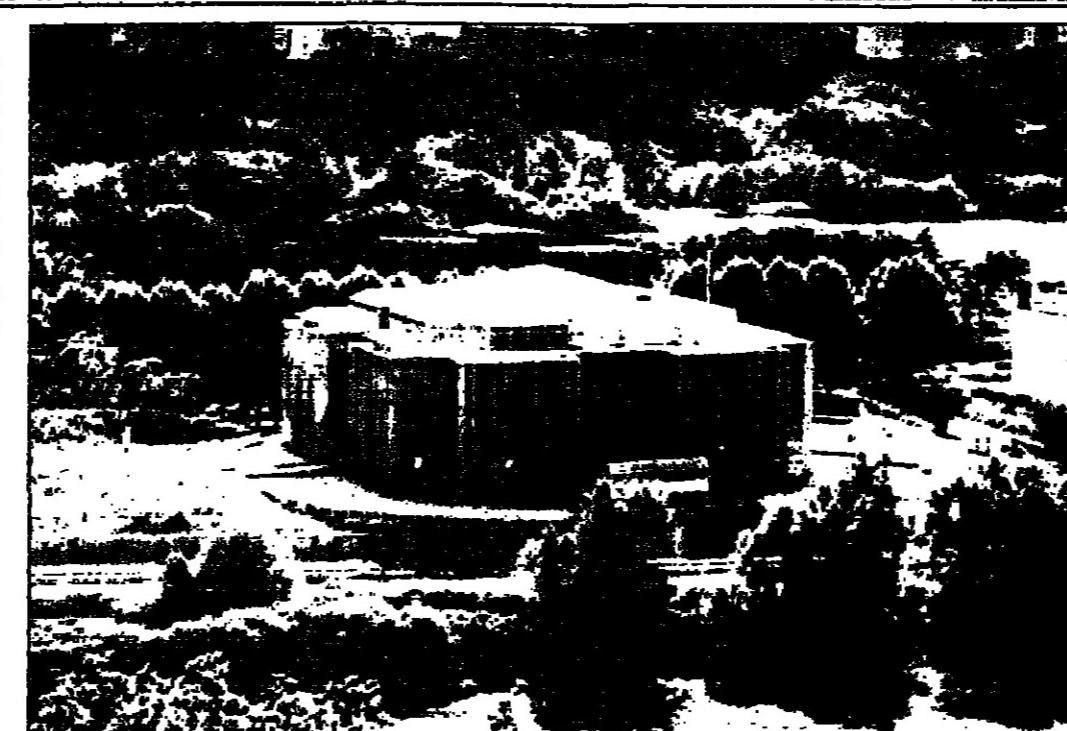
The organisation was first headquartered in Vienna and later moved to Paris. Then, last year, Interpol chiefs decided to transfer to new premises in Lyon, having outgrown their old offices in the residential Paris neighbourhood of St. Cloud and sensitive to the nervousness of their neighbours. There have been two terrorist attacks in the past four years.

Here, in a futuristic compound on the banks of the Rhone, laser-activated alarms have been installed at strategic points around the headquarters and others are buried in the fenced-off grounds. Video cameras scan the area immediately outside the offices. Bullet-proof glass has been fitted in the most sensitive departments.

"Of course, if a terrorist was really determined he could probably still get in, but we've used the most sophisticated security technology available to try to keep them out," said Miguel Chamorro, executive assistant to Raymond Kendall and himself a former high-ranking officer in the Spanish police force.

The move from Paris has coincided with a complete overhaul of the filing system — the heart of the Interpol organisation. Incredibly, computers have been used to store records only since 1984. In the criminal intelligence division of the Lyon HQ, secretaries are still busily transferring the contents of old, Manila-covered dossiers onto computer disks.

By the time the work is finished, there will be around 2 million cases and 300,000 cri-



With its new data bank that is being computerised, Interpol can answer requests from national police forces within half an hour.

attack on a European city. "That was the result of coordinating a meeting between officers of various countries, to enable all the available information to be shared to its maximum effect," said Lavey.

"We were able to prevent the bombing and make one arrest and one deportation."

Although Interpol was active in the early stages of investigations into the 1988 bombing of a Pan American passenger jet over Lockerbie, Scotland, subsequent inquiries have been taken over directly by agencies of the three countries involved — Britain, West Germany and the United States. "They are coordinating between themselves," said Lavey. "Their inquiries are considered too sensitive to go even through our channels."

Another recent arrival to Interpol's ranks is the FOPAC team — funds derived from criminal activities. It's "money laundering, to you and me," explained the department's American chief, Thomas Winkler. "It's one of

the most effective ways of tracking criminal enterprise, whether you're talking about drugs, fraud or art theft. Criminals will usually be very careful if they have stolen goods or contraband in their pockets, but they are often less attentive to what happens afterwards."

Last year the unit scored a major coup when it broke up a Medellin cocaine cartel that was laundering drug money stolen property and works of art. Every six months the bureau issues a "wanted" poster of the most valuable paintings and sculptures stolen during the period. The forgery department has its files copies of every banknote issued by member countries, plus examples of the cleverest forgeries.

The bureau's terrorist unit, headed by former FBI agent Ron Lavey, is a relatively new addition. "Up until 1986 there was a hands-off policy with terrorism, because our constitution forbids our becoming involved in the investigation

of crimes of a religious or political nature," he said. "It's still a sensitive area and we have to tread very carefully."

Accounting for one third of Interpol's manpower and resources, the narcotics division is easily the biggest section in the bureau. The unit has offices from all corners of the globe as well as local offices in countries as far afield as Senegal and Thailand. The department keeps track of new routes, methods of concealment, new drugs and nationalities of the traffickers.

At present, China, Turkey and Nigeria are pinpointed as areas of particular concern.

"We are the only agency able to have a worldwide overview of the drug-trafficking problem," he added. "Unfortunately, our intelligence shows there is no reason to believe there will be any reduction in drug consumption, and we do not believe heroin use has diminished, in spite of the AIDS threat."

— World News Link.

Jordanian museums reach out to children

By Nelly Lamia
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN (UT) — A workshop on museum education was held at the Museum of Jordanian Heritage at Yarmouk University. In cooperation with the Goethe Institute, Amman, who procured them with Mr Diethard Herles from the Museum Education Centre in Munich.

Held for two days (May 19-20, 1990), the workshop proved to be rewarding. Delegates from the Natural History Museum, Irbid, the Archaeological Museum of the University of Jordan, the Archaeological Museum at the Citadel, Amman, the Museum of National Heritage, Amman Amphitheatre, as well as the National Gallery of Fine Arts, the Haya Arts Centre and delegates from the various sections of the Department of Antiquities attended. The workshop was co-hosted by Dr. Moawiyah Ibrahim, director of the institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at Yarmouk University and Berit Merschen the curator of the hosting museum.

No one wants to tax his mind in his free time. People want relaxation and entertainment instead," says Mr Herles. "Therefore, with the right stimulation, an aesthetic and entertaining presentation can, through reconstruction of models, active experiences, modern teaching methods, audio-visual explanations etc., make the visit to the museum very appealing to adults and children alike."

Explanatory booklets, with vivid representations are vital to one's understanding. Visual images and shorter texts insure better learning, while short games (searching for a pertinent object and answering a questionnaire, colouring, etc.) can be highly entertaining.

Children participating in a workshop need to experience an object in a concrete and physical way. They can reconstruct an object, say a Roman

tourist is a misconception. Objects taken out of context and brought to museum (from the archaeological site to a glass box) might seem very unattractive and boring to one who is unfamiliar with them. Therefore they should be presented vividly and convey a message that goes far beyond a object.

Special attention was conveyed to children: Children should love to come to museums, and return there often.

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Children participating in a workshop need to experience an object in a concrete and physical way. They can reconstruct an object, say a Roman

helmet, put it on and ask questions such as who wore it, when, what for, and who were the foes. What was the outcome of the battle and how did it affect the history of the area. Here a child realises that history is not dead but continues with our present world.

He becomes aware of his origins, of his cultural roots and those of nearby countries. This could create mutual tolerance and better relations.

Re-enactment of a certain historical event could make it more palpable.

Museums should be complimentary to school education. Modern curators do not feel that children and adults need prior information about the museum collection before they arrive there. They take that task upon themselves, making it easy to grasp, and pleasing.

It was advised that a visitor stick to a theme and cover only few objects relevant to it, not the whole museum at once. Herles showed slides of a catalogue he made for the BMW museum in Munich with drawings, "fill in the gap" exercises and a personal way of dating. Dates were translated into family members. Me (now), my father at my age (50 years ago), my grandfather (100 years ago), my great-grandfather (150 years ago). This method being more tangible to a child than abstract enumeration.

The museums' presentations include slides, videos and puppet shows. Their mobile tours are accompanied by professionals from the different ministries to advise on issues such as safety, health, etc. They also carry a library around with them.

The result was a teachers' handout about the Museum of Jordanian Heritage, a pamphlet "Man and Earth — now man used the world around him."

A paper on coins, a report entitled "the development of ancient man and his use of tools" pertaining to the Museum of Natural History

and a video spot on rural

living as seen by the museum. A great deal of output for a two-day workshop.

To ensure proper school interest in museums, Dr. Moawiyah Ibrahim appealed to the Ministry of Education to collaborate with museums and allow more days within the schedule of the students, for museum trips. At the moment only one or two days a year are scheduled for such "free" activities. The ministry should also back our projects. I expect the ministry to call upon the schools to come to the museums and be taught.

All in attendance agreed about the need for a special department for museum pedagogy.

Ibrahim conveyed his pleasure at the vitality of the attendants. He expressed everyone's gratitude to Herles for "bringing us good ideas and leading us to practical steps."

The greatest achievement, however, was the bringing together of various departments that can, if united in the prime goal of teaching, achieve great services to the public, children being a prime target. They decided to meet again in the fall to see the results of the workshop. A committee would be appointed to prepare a "Museums Newsletter" to keep the public informed about all what is going on.

DR. MOUSSA Keilani, a columnist at the Jordan Times and former head of the Press and Publications Department, has been chosen as a senior associate member of the Middle East Centre, Florida State University. The wise choice came at the end of a two-month lecture tour by Dr. Keilani to the United States during which he lectured on "Middle East developments and the future of the Islamic movement." Dr. Keilani is the author of a controversial book on Islamic movements in Jordan.

Nermene Murad

Thoughts for this week

Death and labour are things of necessity and not of choice.
— Simone Weil, French philosopher-poet-writer (1910-1943).

Eating little and speaking little can never do harm.
— Sir John Lubbock, English astronomer (1803-1865).

I never met a rich man who was happy, but I have only very occasionally met a poor man who did not want to become a rich man.
— Malcolm Muggeridge, English writer (1903-1988).

Money is a stupid measure of achievement but unfortunately it is the only universal measure we have.
— C.P. Steinmetz, German-born electrical engineer (1865-1923).

A feeble body weakens the mind.
— Jean Rousseau, French philosopher (1712-1778).

Diary

In the "right of return" march, which went to the Al Hussein bridge on the Jordan River the Monday before last, three reporters from the Jordan Times as well as the Jordan Times's and Al Rai's photographer encountered mishaps that are only normal in their "bed of thorns" profession, i.e. journalism. They all inhaled tear-gas which was lobbed at protesters who were proceeding beyond their end-of-demonstration point. Lamis Andoni not only fainted from gas fumes, the first time she woke up she found herself lying on the floor of an ambulance with two other people occupying the beds above her. A few minutes later, the doors of the ambulance were opened again and a young boy, who apparently had also fainted, was shoved inside, and the ambulance took off. After medical aid was administered to the reporter and her group, Lamis decided that it all was worth the experience since she had taken good notes of what happened and witnessed live the whole scene. There indeed was a story, but it did not end there. Lamis' purse, containing the notes, went missing for a whole day and Yousef Allan's camera lenses broke for good.

* * * *

BILL Lyons, the ubiquitous freelance photographer, was one prominent victim of the xenophobia that gripped some of the more extreme elements among Monday's and Tuesday's demonstrators. The tall, blue-eyed long-time resident of Jordan was standing against a wall in front of Jordan Supermarket in Shmeisani, attempting to take photos of Monday's main protest march when a small mob started to knock the store down. "So I ran up the street and parked myself in front of the Atta Ali Restaurant," he said. "One man saw me and headed towards me screaming 'the traitor... don't take picture!'. So Bill ran into Atta Ali for protection where he was duly calmed down by the manager and told that he was safe. The feeling of safety did not last for long, however. The angry xenophobic was joined by a number of supporters and enthusiasts who started banging on the windows of the restaurant breaking one of them. Hospitality was about to end there. The manager told me to go out now," Bill said. But in the end he remained inside for another hour before he dressed up in white apron and a hat and went out through the kitchen door. "Xenophobia? Bill was asked. "It looks like unemployment," he said.

* * * *

AN American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) delegation went to Moscow recently to meet with a Jewish peace group to lobby against Soviet Jewish emigration to Israel. When the delegation, which included members from Jordan and the U.S., arrived in Moscow there was nobody to meet them at the airport. Their subsequent attempts to find accommodation for the night proved fruitless since all hotels were full. They contacted the Jordanian embassy which duly met with the delegation and arranged to put them up for the night. The second day the Soviet Jewish peace group located the delegation and moved them to another hotel. And here is where the real agony began. The ADC team was moved into a hotel which placed guests three to a room. "That would have been fine if we knew the people sharing the rooms with us. But we didn't," one delegation member said. His group suffered through one more night at that hotel (the peaceniks would not pay for their first night at the first hotel because payment was in dollars) before they contacted the Jordanian embassy again and changed hotels. End of story? Yes, if it were not for one cynic who observed: "Did the ADC really need to have a Jewish peace group pay for the delegation's accommodation in Moscow in the first place?"

* * * *

IN A questionnaire given to "high achievers" among university graduates who applied for jobs in the Foreign Ministry, one of the questions asked was who Abdoh Diouf was. The question was optional and the students could have answered any number of the other questions to pass the ministry's test. That was not a good enough reason apparently for one of the "high achievers" to identify Abdoh Diouf as a Jordanian folk singer. Abdoh Musa indeed was a Jordanian folk singer before he died several years ago, but not Diouf, who is president of Senegal. Diouf is said to be planning a visit to Jordan soon, (in fact he was supposed to have visited already) but until then we won't be able to judge any Jordanian folk singing talents that he may have. The funny thing is that the story was told by none other than the foreign ministry official who is in charge of overseeing the appointment of new Jordanian diplomats.

* * * *

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Nermene Murad

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, May 24

8:30 Bill Cosby Show

Sandra, is sick and so her mother and her mother-in-law take the kids away lest they get sick too. Sandra does not like this and goes after them.

9:10 Basketball

10:00 News in English

10:20 Feature Film
The Grasscutters

A collaborator with the British army flees the country for fear of reprisal — but the IRA sends a team after him in New Zealand. He manages to break away from them but not before paying a high price.

Friday, May 25

8:30 Robert Guillaume Show

9:10 Beauty and the Beast
In the Forests of the Night

Vincent goes after Gabriel's drug traffickers and really nails them down. The police hope that Diana might help them track Vincent down but helps Vincent to cool it.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Quincy

Quincy helps a dying woman to have hope and to love life again.

Saturday, May 26

8:30 Surgical Spirit
Cold Cuts

The hospital administration department is cutting costs by turning down the heating and sacking a cleaner. Lilly, who just happens to be a favourite of



A scene from **Blind Faith**, Monday 10:20:
Police arrest Robert Marshal (Robert Urich).

Sabatini's. Sabatini discovers the only way to keep the cleaner employed is to tell Hope-Wynne he can no longer have a video operating microscope he wanted — but how? The situation solves itself when, after Lilly has helped Hope-Wynne with a difficult patient, he offers to forego his microscope.

Friday, May 27

8:30 Who's the Boss
The Two Tonys

Tony runs into an old girlfriend and her husband who, it turned out, suffers from a complex called Tony, the two do not get along fine, and start competing for attention. Angela here, steps in and makes a request.

9:10 Back to the Edge
A return to Vietnam

Many years after the end of the war, a group of people

go back to Vietnam to tell us about their experiences. They went through fighting there, and about how they felt about the war and the atrocities committed by both sides.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Poirot
The Kidnapped Prime Minister

The Prime Minister's speech at the disarmament conference is eagerly anticipated. But when Poirot is urgently summoned to the Foreign Office, he discovers that the political stability of his adoptive country is at stake.

Monday, May 28

8:30 Perfect Strangers
Father Know Best

The situation is getting more and more dangerous. The possibility of drowning looms large but, in the nick of time, Larry gets what you might call, a brainstrom and saves everyone.

9:10 FIFA Soccer

10:00 News in English

10:20 Blind Faith
Starring: Robert Urich,

Jeanna Kerns

Robert Marshall is all success in business, happily married and a father of three sons. In fact Robert wants to celebrate 23 years of marriage — but unknown assailants murder his wife and a string of surprises follow her death.

Tuesday, May 29

8:30 Charles in Charge

9:10 A Horseman Riding By
The Last Hot Summer

The peasants celebrate the end of a good harvest year. Craddock and Claire celebrate too. Talk of war begins to circulate but the people of the valley refuse to believe that a thing like that could happen to them.

10:00 News in English

10:20 In the Heat of the Night
The Greek

Virgil, while on an evening patrol, finds Lauren beaten up. She identifies the wrong man. Virgil starts to get nightmares but cannot connect with what is bothering him but in the end he learns who the wrongdoer is and understands the nature of his subconscious nightmare.

Wednesday, May 30

8:30 Golden Girls

9:10 The Nuclear Age
A Bigget Bang for the Buck

10:00 News in English

10:20 Hemingway

The continuing story of Hemingway. A short vacation in Kenya and the United States — then deep into the Spanish Civil War.

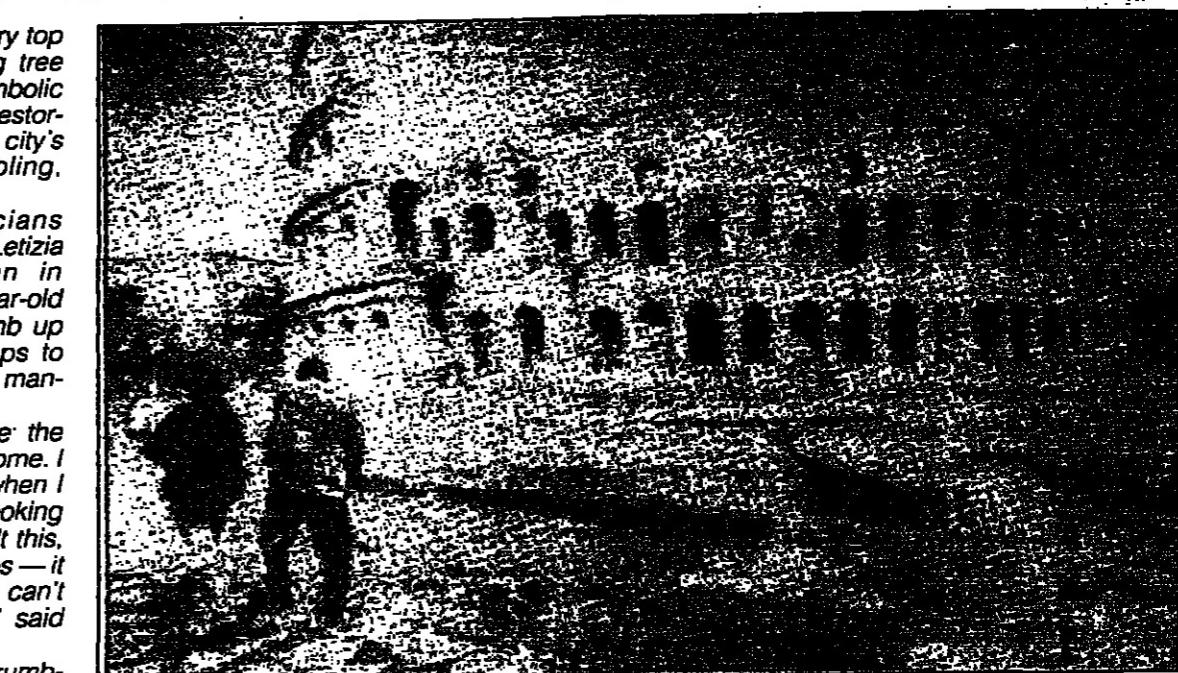
10:20 FIFA Soccer

10:00 News in English

10:20 Blind Faith
Starring: Robert Urich,

Fig tree defies Rome

Colosseum's chief restorer



The crumbling hulk of the Colosseum in Rome

ROME (R) — On the very top of the Colosseum, a fig tree bows in the wind, a symbolic target of the battle by restorers to save the eternal city's favourite, and crumbling, landmark.

Tight-fisted politicians sometimes drive Maria Letizia Conforto, the woman in charge of the 2,000-year-old arena's upkeep, to climb up the steep flights of steps to the ledge under the massive tree.

"Yes, this has to be the most beautiful spot in Rome. I always climb up here when I feel depressed. Just looking at how the Romans built this, the arcades, the galleries — it makes me think things can't be that bad after all," said Conforto.

As she gazes at the crumbling hulk below her and, beyond, to the green palatine hill where ancient Rome's emperors lived, Conforto has plenty to be depressed about.

The fig tree, tantalisingly out of reach — the restorers cannot afford the scaffolding to uproot it from its cosy ledge 57 metres up — is in good company. Dozens of weeds and small bushes, thanks to a mild winter, are sprouting early in the cracks of crumbling walls and vaults.

There are ugly gaping holes where the stuccoed vaults covering the passages and stairs, down which a full house of 50,000 Romans poured after gladiator fights, have caved in.

Side-stepping a fist-sized jagged lump fallen from the vault of a gallery closed off to the public, Conforto painted a sad picture of the world's largest Roman amphitheatre:

"The whole amphitheatre is a monument at risk. It's not for nothing that we've closed off a third of it."

"The problem is our colfers ran dry two years ago. We don't even have the money to get rid of the weeds which need a special chemical treatment."

Conforto said about 50 billion lire (\$40 million) was needed to clean up and repair the Colosseum. But the latest special allocation of funds for the restoration of Rome's hundreds of monuments ran out in 1988 and politicians have not approved any more.

The Colosseum has done well to survive 20 centuries. It has been through four earthquakes, lightning, fires, the sackings of the fifth-century Vandals and was used as a quarry for palaces and the building of St. Peter's Basilica.

Pope Benedict XIV consecrated the site in 1744 in memory of the early Christians who were thought to have met their death in the arena, forced like criminals to fight wild animals or armed强盗.

In the previous half-century, the Roman Catholic Church set up modest homes, small shops and even a convent in the Colosseum.

Before the arena was stripped clean in 1870, botanists wrote two books on its 420 species, many of which had sprouted from exotic seeds imported with animal fodder.

The monument has paid a heavy price. Art experts said most of today's ruin, which stands blackened by exhaust fumes at one of Rome's busiest road junctions, was the work of restorers rather than original stonework.

The huge blocks of travertine stone on its outer ring are pitted with a myriad of holes the size of canon balls, where mediaeval armories stripped away the iron bands holding the structure to be melted down for weapons.

Conforto said the crumbling of the fragile vaults, speeded by the weeds' roots, was due mainly to poor upkeep and worse drainage.

Acid rainwater seeps through the galleries, which were originally protected by rows of spectators' stone seats long since destroyed, and gradually brings the stonework down with it.

The jagged holes provide an easy grip for the weeds, whose roots speed up the loosening of the bricks. Officials estimate some 10,000 square metres of pavements need to be restored.

To make things worse, city

authorities boring a tunnel for the underground railway have cut through the drains which run westwards to the River Tiber. Conforto said she was worried that trains rushing past would also take their toll.

"The metro line is there and it will be difficult to avoid the damage which the vibrations due to the trains will cause. We've already got the damage caused by earthquakes and nature — let's, at least limit that caused by man."

Now the Colosseum stands in an underground pool of water.

In the late 1970s, art experts warned Rome City Council of "a deep and worrying fracturing" of columns erected in 1820 to support an outer ring on the southern side of the Colosseum, its most damaged part.

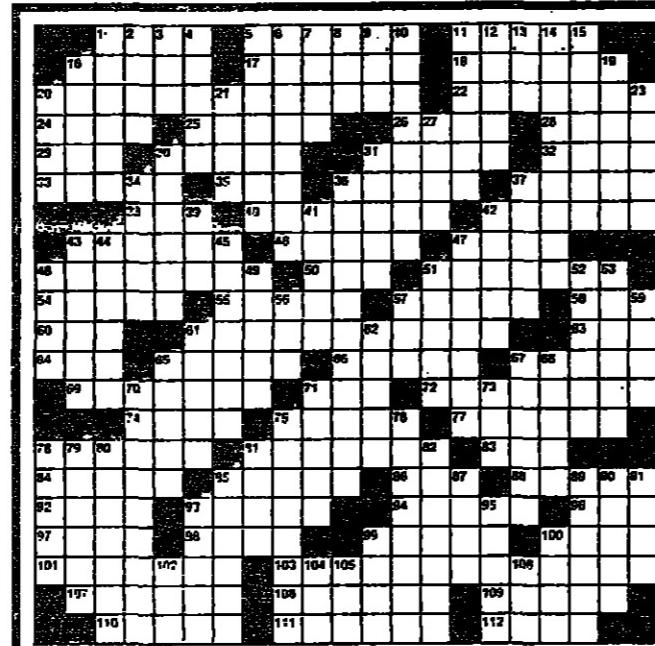
"I think people's ignorance is to blame. Politicians are ready to spend millions on a motorway because they can drive their cars down them. They think that because the Colosseum has been here for 2,000 years, it'll go on being here whatever happens," Conforto said.

Weekend Crossword

BUFFOONERY
By Louis Saha

ACROSS
1 Trick chaps
2 Abright or
3 Pacino and Hert
4 Furniture wood
5 Identification
6 Seven days
7 Units of energy
8 Silkworm
9 Certain velociv.
10 Athletic non-nos
11 Scabbard
12 Mastiff Matisse
13 Boxes
14 Infallible
15 Exhaust
16 Very specifically
17 Usurp a thumble
20 Accomplishment
21 Radiance
22 Devoted

DOWN
1 York led
2 Dried
3 Insects
4 Gob
5 Boutique
6 Stripe
7 Wifely
8 VIPs
9 Skinned in a way
10 Toy
11 Pack



Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Nothing may satisfy a classic poet's profound soul better than good old lambic pentameter.
2. Scot scratched self with scissors while he cut swatch out of scorched cloth.
3. First place bike racer pedaled along so darn fast he met himself twice.
4. Liberty Bell crack arouses curiosity; causes some small talk.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. GMODC IN GY XGY TMB OMTL CAN
JEYWFPIN MXMC AB M FAZ JEWBL NAJ YB
JGV PAH, KBH PMWZG. —By Gordon Miller

2. LPMILP IOAP YM ERS R ZMMN NOPY APPLE
SMK SMKUZ BUN CÖY — ÜMY MIN KUN-CRY.
—By Ed Huddison

3. AWEYP SWUYIC TORN OWNUCIR SI ECRRO
THAWEEP YWNPO' ECRSSP NCROO
—By Lois H. Jones

4. LHZZ KHDKHZZ TCJNY ZTTAD HL JNC
YTAEN UELLEJO ZTJO KHZZ CELU KEO
KHL. —By Earl Ireland

SOLUTIONS OF
LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

Diagrams 17 x 17. By Adam Christopher

ACROSS
1 Train
5 Plated the pool
9 Black eye
11 Peace!
13 Place for salekeeping
15 Indian warriors
17 Mire
19 Mine
20 Irritated
21 Great deal
22 Red

DOWN
1 Young lad
2 Dried
3 Insects
4 Gob
5 Boutique
6 Stripe
7 Wifely
8 VIPs
9 Skinned in a way
10 Toy
11 Pack

Thursday, May 24

1941 — German battleship Bismarck sinks British battle cruiser Hood in North Atlantic in World War II and more than 1,300 lives are lost.

1972 — United States and Soviet union agree to project to put U.S. and Soviet space-men in orbit together by 1975.

1983 — Abu Jihad, deputy commander of Palestine Liberation Organisation, accuses Libya of sending weapons and money to mutineers in PLO's largest faction, Fatah.

1984 — Israel and the United States reject a United Nations proposal for an international peace conference on the Middle East.

Friday, May 25

1914 — Britain's House of Commons passes Irish home rule bill.

1979 — American Airlines DC-10 loses an engine and nosedives into ground at Chicago's O'Hare Airport, killing all 272 people aboard in U.S. aviation history's worst disaster.

1983 — Nile River ferry catches fire and sinks in southern Egypt, leaving 194 people dead and 68 missing.

1985 — Emir of Kuwait escapes assassination after terrorists detonate a bomb in

1923 — Independence of Transjordan under Amir Abdullah is proclaimed.

1963 — Leaders of six African nations, meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, form Organisation of African Unity.

1969 — Parliamentary government in Sudan is overthrown in bloodless coup and Major General Jafaar Numeiri heads new military regime.

1979 — American Airlines DC-10 loses an engine and nosedives into ground at Chicago's O'Hare Airport, killing all 272 people aboard in U.S. aviation history's worst disaster.

1983 — Israel formally returns sovereignty of Sinai capital of Al Arish, which it occupied for a dozen years, to Egypt under terms of their new peace treaty.

1989 — Jewish settlers raid

Palestinian village in occupied West Bank, shooting at least three residents.

Sunday, May 27

1905 — Japanese annihilate Russian fleet of 32 ships in Tsushima Straits off Korea.

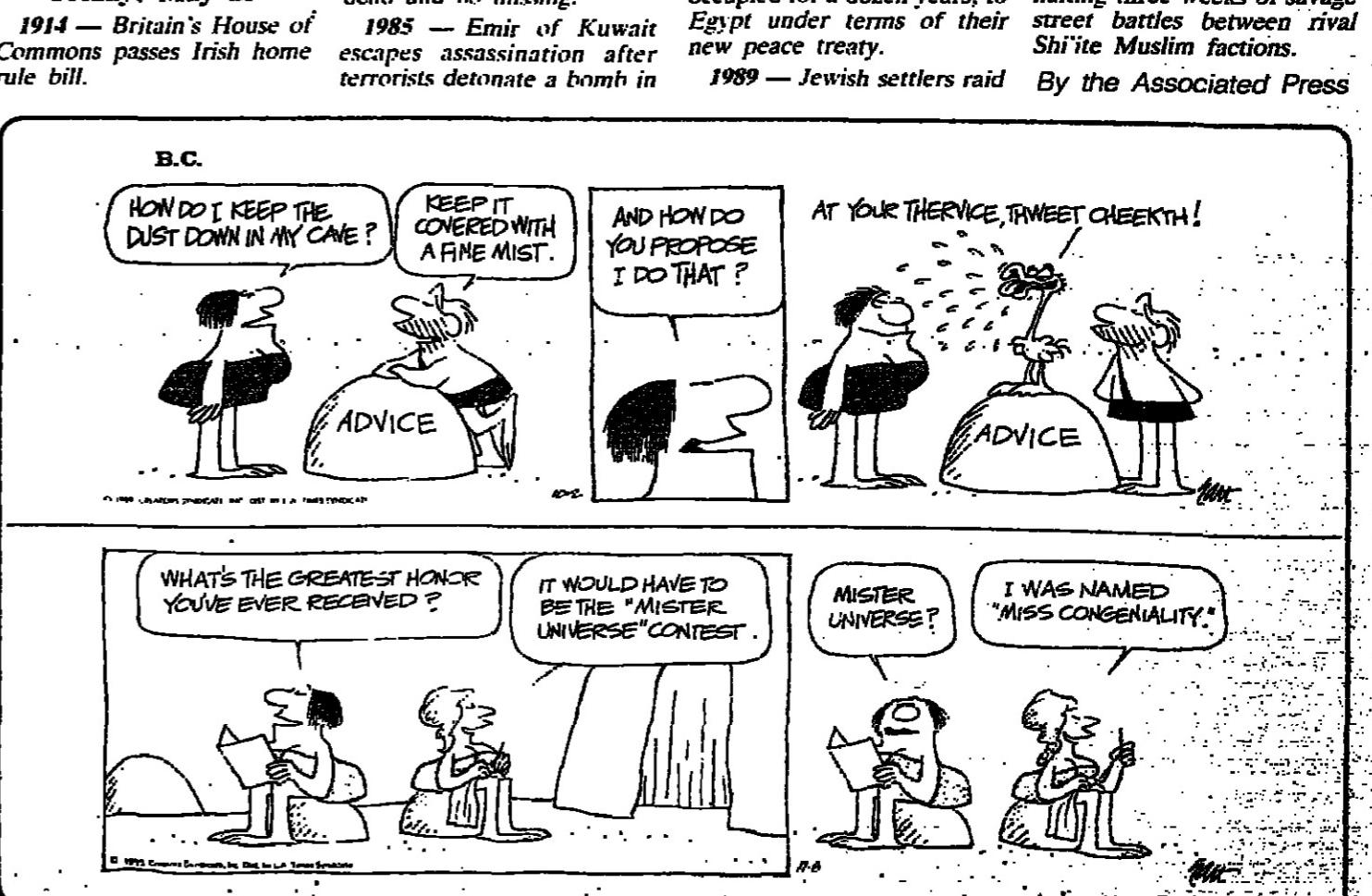
1918 — German forces launch intensive offensive on Western front in World War I.

1941 — German battleship Bismarck is sunk by British navy off France in World War II, with loss of 2,300 lives.

1971 — Soviet Union signs 15-year pact with Egypt, pledging assistance in recovery of all Arab territories occupied by Israel.

1988 — Syrian troops move into Beirut's southern slums, halting three weeks of savage street battles between rival Shi'ite Muslim factions.

By the Associated Press



Shawa's works are great witness to skillful use of colour combination

By Molly Lunn

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Rhythms galore — that's what one is faced with as he enters the first floor of the National Gallery of Fine Arts where Laila Rashad Shawa exhibits bright, dynamic paintings covering different stages of her artistic experience.

Shawa received her art education at the School of Leonardo Da Vinci in Cairo, between 1960-64 at the Academy of Fine Arts and the Academy of St. Giacomo, in Rome. In 1962, she studied under the internationally renowned Oscar Kokoschka at his academy in Salzburg, Austria.

Shawa had begun painting stylised horses with decorations and as golden background reminiscent of Byzantine icons, and definitely statuing their wealth and grandeur.

She attempted to use calligraphy and other decorative elements to fill a defined architectural structure.

After a few years away from

painting, she departed from that style, and started a new manner of painting. Shawa has her personal convictions and her paintings, though decorative at first sight, make a statement. She portrays the conservative woman as if she were hiding behind a mask, often with empty eyes. The figures are crammed together within a confined space in the manner of the expressionist Emil Nolde, and lack nothing of his power of expression. A constant repetition of the female figure adds to her anonymity and lack of personality but the heaving forward of these figures is witness that, in their togetherness, they are a power. Varied decoration are incorporated within their drapery or in the background.

These works are great witnesses to the skillful use of colour combinations. She covers large areas with very vivid colour, bearing different intensities and shades although the rendering is rather flat. Tinted and pure tones are ingeniously balanced. In a painting unlike

others, where a man leads a hoard of women, the whole balance depends on the lemon-yellow staff he is holding; omit that and the whole composition breaks up.

The colours being warm, the headcovers heavy and restricting, the cramping and decorative rhythms so overwhelming that they create a suffocatingly hot atmosphere. To this, Shawa adds a touch of humour as she gives each sulking female an ice cream cone. Is this frivolity allowed them?

Seeing the same conservative women in a street in London and, at the same time, punks, she expresses her cultural shock by painting the two punk heads in a stable manner, while the 'others' sway to and fro... in a question relating to... who's the freak?

Another set of Shawa's paintings represents young Gazan girls in Turkoman garb. She explains: "I was born in the Turkoman area and have a strong feeling for the Turkoman dress. Turkomans came to Gaza in the 19th century.

Shawa's paintings have been incorporated with our civilisation." In these works, she paints architectural motifs of the area and overlaps them with a girl with ethnic features. In every painting the girl carries a symbol, a bird, a lily or a spiky cactus. The girl in the last case has empty eyeballs. "Don't you know of

the expression 'eyeless in Gaza'?" Well, in this case it shows those people who know the hardships that face them but are resigned and refuse to see the truth," she explains. "I cannot stand such people!"

Representing Palestine Shawa was invited to participate in the "Malaysian Experience", an idea proposed by the National Art Gallery there, as part of the "Visits Malaysia" programme. Artists from different parts of the world, namely Australia, Britain, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Palestine and Singapore were invited. They were to experience the physical and cultural environment of Malaysia and then paint their impressions of it. Their works were to represent their spiritual, emotional and intellectual responses to the country. They visited Kuala Lumpur, Malacca and Trengganu. Within the short time allotted, some painted architectural motifs, imitated 'baubles' designs that are very popular in the East, rendered the stunning glare of the sun.

In some of these paintings she paints slithering curvilinear foliage in an exotic palette of green and violet. But her yellow and yellow-green paintings convey the real warmth and glare of the tropical sun.

In one instance, she makes the light permeate intensely by adding intense orange streaks into the otherwise green foliage. Although the spaces are rather small, the exotism of such a combination of colours

and, in sculptural form, created very ethnic twig and straw formations or architectural constructions.

Shawa's impressions were vivid and intense. She captured the warmth and intensity of light as it appeared among the exotic foliage of the Malaysian rain forest. With sweeping vertical lines emanating from the base of the painting, and foliage appearing very high, she demonstrates the tremendous height of trees in the jungle. One has the feeling that he is looking straight up when actually, he is looking straight ahead.

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One of the paintings by Laila Shawa in which compressions and rhythms weigh on the man.

is reminiscent of Gauguin, Fauve, and truly a fauve, this passionate young artist lives in London but her perception re-

mains ultimately oriental and... warm.

The exhibition will remain until the May 30.

Philippe Noiret —

The European actor of 1989

By Camille Herisson

PARIS — Philippe Noiret began on the stage forty years ago and has made a hundred and one films. In thirty years of cinema, he has played the most varied characters in the human comedy. At the age of 59, he has just been named the "European Actor of the Year".

He was born in the north of France in 1931 and nothing predestined him for a career as an actor. He started in this profession because he did not know how to do anything else: "I was a dance expelled from all schools. I failed my higher school certificate (Baccalaureat) three times. I had to find a job which did not require diplomas. So I decided to be an artist. As I could not write, or paint or sculpt, I chose acting".

At the age of 20, he was an acting apprentice and he joined the prestigious Jean Vilar's "Theatre National Populaire (TNP). He was to remain there for eight years. Mostly acting old men. He leapt from one role to another, ten hours a day, eleven months of the year: Coriolis,

Moliere, Shakespeare, Giraudoux, Claudel, etc. "A great school which left me with the memory of accomplishment, of fulfillment", Noiret recalls.

His adventure in cinema began when he was 25. He played in Agnes Varda's *La Pointe Courte*. At the age of 39, he has just been named the "European Actor of the Year".

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Le Vieux Fusil (1976), the story of a doctor who became a mad avenger after his family was massacred by the Nazis, won him a Cesar for the best male role.

Another memorable performance was as a cop stupefied by alcohol in colonial Africa in B. Tavernier's *Coup de Torchon* (1981). Two years later, he acted as an officer in the Sahara, a great lord of the desert like Layetey, in Alain Corneau's *Fort Saganne*.

In 1984, Noiret played the astounding shady cop in Claude Zidi's *Les Rupoux*. In 1987, he was in Ph. de Broca's *Les Chouans* in the part of a liberal 18th century aristocrat who sees all he believed in, crumbling away.

Noiret's multifarious talent drew the attention of foreign film directors, particularly Italian ones. In 1977, the American magazine Time went so far as to declare him the best actor in the world.

He acted for A. Litvak in *La Nuit des Generaux* and for V. de Sica in *Sept Fois Femme* (1966).

A. Hitchcock used him in *Vice, G. Cukor in Justine* (1968), and

M. Ferreri in *La Grande Bouffe* (1973). He then played in E. Scola's before being the admirable actor in G. Montaldo's *Les Lunettes d'Or*, playing a homosexual doctor in the bourgeois society of fascist Italy.

His last two appearances on the screen were greeted with enthusiasm by both the public and the critics. In B. Tavernier's *La Vie et Rien d'Autre*, he put on the horizon-blue uniform of an officer in the 1914-18 war, wading in the mud at Verdun looking for the bodies of his men. In *Cinema Paradiso*, by the Italian director G. Tornatore, a nostalgic film devoted to the golden age of cinema, he played the part of an old projectionist in a small town in Sicily. Unforgettable.

From then on, he made film after film: G. Franja's *Theres Desqueyroux* (1962), J.P. Rappeneau's *La Vie de Chateau* (1965) and Yves Robert's *Alexandre le Bienheureux* (1968) which made him a savoury courtier-epicurian. He then played the tormented father of a murderous son in B. Tavernier's *L'Horloger de Saint-Paul* (1974), and then a magistrate in *Le Juge et l'Assassin* (1976) by the same director. The latter then gave him a part as a Regent who is human and has no illusions in *Que la Fete Continue* (1976).

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Overwhelmed by AIDS, U.S. cities turn to Congress for help

By Irwin Arieff
Reuter

WASHINGTON — An epidemic of AIDS cases in the United States has led to the growing realisation in Washington that the country's health care system is being overwhelmed and needs an immediate injection of money.

Momentum is gathering in the U.S. Congress behind emergency AIDS relief leg-

islation to combat the virus that has already led to the deaths of more than 80,000 people in the United States.

"The cities are enormously stressed by this dreadful disease, and this is a signal that the federal government recognises that," said Dr. David Rogers, chairman of the New York State AIDS Advisory Council.

A \$2.9 billion relief bill was passed the Senate by an overwhelming margin and house

passage was expected, though the administration has not yet said whether President George Bush would sign the bill.

The government Centres for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta estimates that about a million Americans are carriers of the AIDS virus but as yet show no symptoms.

All eventually are expected to fall ill from the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) which has no known

cure and is virtually always fatal.

The relief bill, modelled after emergency aid plans routinely approved by the government for such natural calamities as earthquakes and floods, would funnel up to about \$3 billion over the next five years into AIDS care and services.

Over the next two years, it would authorise up to \$1.2 billion to be sent directly to the 13 cities hardest hit by the

epidemic, those with 2,000 or more diagnosed cases of AIDS.

Additional money in the bill would be divided up among the states for use in other AIDS-related programmes.

"We are facing a national crisis on the delivery of health services to deal with the HIV (the AIDS virus), and that's what this is all about," said Senator Edward Kennedy, a Massachusetts Democrat and

one of the bill's authors.

"The toll that AIDS is taking on local communities and health care systems is literally overwhelming," Kennedy said.

More AIDS cases are reported in the United States than in any other country. The 13 cities with the greatest case load of AIDS patients are Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Newark, Philadelphia, San

Francisco, San Juan and Washington.

D

The expected rapid growth in the number of AIDS cases casts a shadow over all national health care programmes.

Through the end of April, 132,510 cases of AIDS were reported to public health authorities and 80,799 of these have already died, the CDC said.

It adds that by the end of

1993, 390,000 to 480,000 cases of AIDS will have been di-

agnosed and reported to public health authorities. Total deaths from AIDS will number 285,000 to 340,000 by the end of 1993.

The Senate-approved \$2.9 billion relief bill is emergency money over and above the \$3.2 billion sought by the Bush administration for all federal AIDS programmes for next year, including research, prevention and education programmes.

Most teenagers outgrow personality troubles in 2 years

By Malcolm Ritter
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Adolescents with personality problems serious enough to be considered disorders usually are just going through "a phase" and outgrow them in a few years, a study presented to psychiatrists suggests.

Another researcher called the findings a "hopeful statement" for exasperated parents of teenagers.

The study's results were presented to the annual meeting of the American Psychiatric Association by David Bernstein, a psychologist at the Bronx Veterans Administration Medical Centre and the Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

'Some premature babies should not be saved'

CHICAGO (AP) — Doctors must realise it is often better to let extremely small premature babies die, despite fears of lawsuits or outcries from lobbyists, two researchers say.

Medical costs nearing \$160,000 per infant and the chance that surviving babies will suffer lifelong health problems led to the conclusion by Dr. David K. Stevenson and Ernie W.D. Young, both of Stanford University.

The researchers, writing in the May issue of American Journal of Diseases of Children, said an estimated \$2.6 billion annually is spent on neonatal intensive care in the United States.

Stevenson and Young said

He cautioned that for other youths with personality disturbances, the troubles can be an early warning of long-standing difficulties. So, he said, parents should consider having troubled adolescents evaluated by a mental health professional if personality problems appear persistent.

The researchers focused on 10 types of personality disorder:

— Paranoid, a tendency to view the actions of others as deliberately demeaning or threatening.

— Schizoid, in which a person neither wants nor enjoys close relationships, and often appears cold and aloof.

— Schizotypal, a pervasive pattern of peculiarities in thoughts and behavior such as

superstitiousness, bizarre fantasies and preoccupations.

— Histrionic, which involves excessive emotionality and attention-seeking.

— Narcissistic, which includes a grandiose sense of self-importance, extreme sensitivity to criticism and inability to recognize how other people feel.

— Borderline, an instability in self-image, mood and relationships with others.

— Avoidant, a pervasive pattern of discomfort in social settings, timidity and extreme fear of disapproval.

— Dependent, which involves submissive behaviour in a variety of contexts.

— Obsessive-compulsive, a pattern of perfectionism and inflexibility in a variety of contexts.

— Passive-aggressive, a pervasive tendency to resist meeting social and business obligations by such indirect means as procrastination or claiming to forget to do things.

Such traits appear in many healthy people, but can become a disorder if they form an inflexible pattern that significantly interferes with social or occupational functioning, or causes the person disordered.

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Researchers found that 17 per cent could be diagnosed with at least one disorder.

including about one-third of 13-year-olds.

But of the diagnosable participants, 59 per cent were free of any personality diagnosis two years later.

Only 39 per cent of participants diagnosable for passive-aggressive disorder in the initial interview met criteria for that disorder two years later, and the other disorders were even less persistent.

Bernstein did the research with colleague Dr. Larry Siever and Patricia Cohen and her colleagues at the New York State Psychiatric Institute.

The study's results do not mean that adolescent problems can be ignored, cautioned Dr. Daniel Offer, director of the Centre for the Study of Adolescence at Michael

Reese Hospital and Medical Centre in Chicago.

"You have to take adolescent problems seriously, some do grow out of it and some don't, and you never know who will and who won't," he said.

If the troubles are serious and affecting more than one area of an adolescent's life, a mental health professional should be consulted, he said.

Offer also said he thinks two years is too brief to be sure the problems are truly gone.

"So many parents have so many negative experiences with teenage children and they're so pessimistic that I think it's nice to have that kind of statement," he said.

Mice and men join forces in effort to battle cancer

By Elaine Kurtenbach
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Scientists are melding the cells of mice and men in their search for ways to combat cancer.

Newly developed cells that are basically human but also have a genetic factor extracted from mice can deactivate the mechanisms in cancer cells that make them resistant to chemotherapy, Takashi Tsuruo, professor of applied microbiology at the University of Tokyo, reported at a conference in Tokyo.

Cancer cells, like viruses, tend to develop a resistance to certain drugs used to kill them. Resistant cancer cells also become immune to alternative drugs, making effective treatment more difficult.

Research results presented at the May 10-11 conference organised by the Japan Foundation for Cancer Research focused on progress in ways to overcome this resistance.

The transplants, using a reserve of the patients' own bone marrow, are used to replace bone marrow destroyed by the massive chemotherapy doses, she said.

Since bone marrow is the source of white blood cells, a key factor in the body's immune system, quick replacement of the destroyed cells is necessary to prevent infection.

Dr. Karen Antman of Harvard University and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute presented research results from clinical studies indicating that very high doses of chemotherapy coupled with bone marrow transplants can increase chances for survival in breast cancer patients whose cancer has spread to other parts of the body.

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Genetic therapy and other biochemical techniques can be used to disarm cancer cells' defences while strengthening a patient's immune system, said Tsuruo, who also is chief researcher at the Cancer Chemotherapy Centre at the Japanese Foundation for Cancer Research.

One new genetic technique involves injecting drug-resistant human cancer cells into a mouse.

In a reaction like that for a vaccination for any other disease, the mouse then develops antibodies to fight the illness. Antibodies are proteins formed by the body's immune system to counteract foreign substances such as bacteria.

From new mouse antibodies, Tsuruo isolated and produced monoclonal antibodies — genetically identical molecules that can be targeted at cancer cells and used to destroy them.

The antibodies, he said, bind to the outside of cancer cells and prevent them from ejecting chemotherapy drugs before the cancer is destroyed.

Conference participants gave a standing ovation to Tsuruo for sharing the monoclonal antibodies he developed with researchers in Europe and the United States, said Dr. Gregory Curt, clinical director of the U.S. National Cancer Institute's Cancer Treatment Division.

Conversely, the cancer cells' main line of defence against chemotherapy, called pump proteins because they expel the drugs from the cancer cells, can be used to make other human cells stronger, reported Dr. Michael Gottesman, chief of the Cell Biology Laboratory at the U.S. National Cancer Institute.

In his research, Gottesman isolated and transferred pump proteins from cancer cells into bone marrow cells of mice, thus arming the mice's white blood cells with the protective pump protein.

Organisers of the conference, supported by the U.S. pharmaceuticals firm Bristol Myers Squibb, said they hoped the exchange of information on complementary research projects would help spread advanced research results worldwide.

One in four visitors suffer mountain sickness in Colorado

By Denis M. Seares
Associated Press

KEYSTONE, Colorado — Altitude sickness afflicts one of four visitors to Colorado's mountains with effects ranging from nausea and headaches to death, according to a new study.

One victim was Howard Shapiro, a 40-year-old New York City lawyer. He flew to Denver one day in February and drove to this Rocky Mountain ski resort above 2,745 metres altitude.

"I became very dizzy, light-headed. At the onset I was short of breath, but that seemed to abate pretty quickly. The headache went from mild to severe ... and then the constant vomiting," Shapiro said.

"At some point in time, dying seemed the lesser of two evils," he said.

In the morning, at the resort's Snake River Health Centre, he was asked to participate in an experimental programme. He was placed in a red gamow bag, which resembles a backpacker's tube tent. Air pressure in the bag is increased.

"We take him down to higher pressure and lower altitude. It's a simulated drop from Keystone's 9,300 feet to about 4,300 feet," or a drop from the 2,836-kilometre level to 1,310 metres, said University of Colorado graduate student Jim Kasic, who is involved in the study by the

Colorado Altitude Research Institute based at the clinic.

In two hours, Shapiro could eat and drink again.

Bengtak Jaurin, 35, a microbiologist from Umea, Sweden, complained of the same symptoms after arriving at Frisco, altitude 2,755 metres. He went to his room and was found dead the next morning, Jan. 19. An autopsy showed he died of respiratory failure due to high altitude pulmonary edema, an abnormal accumulation of fluid in the lungs.

"We appear to have a more vigorous 'pro-life' lobby in this country than is evident in

either Sweden or Britain," they wrote.

The researchers said a 1984 study found that the per capita incidence of extremely premature, underweight infants in Britain and Sweden "was impressively lower than in the United States."

Taking issue with the researchers was Dr. Thomas G. Storch, an associate editor of the journal and a member of its editorial board. In an accompanying editorial, he wrote that the technology to achieve good results with the very small infants "is well within our grasp."

"Money should not be a consideration," Storch said in a telephone interview. "There is money out there, the researchers wrote.

and we as pediatricians need to become spokesmen to get the money out there rather than throw in the towel and start rationing health care."

Stevenson and Young said the costs of treating extremely underweight premature babies — those weighing less than two pounds — do not take into account the lifelong costs of caring for any resulting disabilities.

The effects of erring on the side of life are as follows: We save some who would otherwise have died; we do immediate harm and inflict long-term suffering on many who survive and we expend an enormous amount of money on neonatal intensive care," the researchers wrote.

First, breaths come deeper and faster. Second, the heart beats faster and puts out more blood per stroke. Third, bone-marrow begins making more red blood cells to carry oxygen.

In addition, body cells undergo enzyme changes, and the kidneys excrete more urine to get rid of excess bicarbonate. "There is something going on in just about every organ" as the body tries to adjust, he said.

Clinic Medical Director Dick Nicholas, said acclimatisation generally takes a night at an intermediate altitude.

"We get people taking the all night bus from Kansas City. They get on the bus Thursday afternoon and get off here Friday. That's not enough time for most," Nicholas said.

"We also feel a high carbohydrate diet can make a difference. Mountain climber studies show that on a carbohydrate diet, they feel better rather than when on a fatty diet," he said.

The study hopes to eventually provide information so people can make informed decisions about whether to go to high altitudes and how to prepare for such trips.

The institute's study, staffed

by graduate students and supervised by doctor-board members of the non-profit Snake River Health Clinic, began last June. About 1,700 adults and teenagers have been interviewed at Keystone ski resort so far.

Houston, 76, began research on altitude while a mountain climber in the Himalayas in the 1930s and 1940s and while with the navy's aviation division during World War II.

Houston said altitude sickness is a mixture of problems that often occur together:

— Acute mountain sickness, which includes headache, nausea, vomiting, shortness of breath, fatigue, and sleep disturbance.

— High altitude pulmonary edema, water accumulation in the lungs that can be fatal.

— High altitude cerebral edema, in which water accumulates on the brain. It also can be fatal.

Symptoms can be treated with medication, but the disease can be prevented, Houston said.

"Prevention is take a couple of days to get here, spend a couple days in Denver (at

mile-high, or 1.6-kilometre altitude) and then come on up here" to 9,300 feet, or 2,836 metres, he said.

Houston explained what happens to the body within an hour of arriving at a high altitude:

First, breaths come deeper and faster. Second, the heart beats faster and puts out more blood per stroke. Third, bone-marrow begins making more red blood cells to carry oxygen.

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Black princess and the knight

By Eddie Scott

CARIO (WNL) — A motorbike, lots and lots of maps, a Swiss army knife. That's all it takes to go around the world — if your name is Eddie Scott, that is. And it's not just any old trip around the world. This 35-year-old adventurer from Argentina is making an art of it. His aim? To visit every single one of the planet's 172 nations.

"Mummy, I want to travel around the world," the young boy used to say to his mother. Today Scott is close to making his dream come true. On the way he stopped in Egypt, the 101st country on his list.

"I'm not the first nor the last to go around the world," he said in an interview in Cairo, displaying with pride some of the 70,000 slides he has taken during his travels; and noting that he has earned a mention in the Guinness Book of Records.

As a faithful and loyal traveling companion, the tall and energetic Scott has his "Black Princess" — a 1000 cc Honda Gold Wing motorcycle that has carried him over 300,000 kilometers (more than 186,000 miles), burning up its

in the process 41 tires, 22,000 liters

(about 5,900 gallons) of gas and 750 liters (about 800 quarts) of oil.

Scott is sponsored by several companies and is financing his trip by selling articles he writes along the way and by giving lectures on the countries he has visited.

On the highways of Dubai in the Arabian Gulf desert, Scott and his Princess hit record speeds of 240 km (150 miles) per hour, but they probably set a record slow when traveling through Guinea on his way from Guinea-Bissau and Sierra Leone on the coast of West Africa. There, slogging his way through marshlands, Scott covered only 15 km (9 miles) a day although he was on the road from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

When crossing a country is impossible, because of political problems like closed borders, Scott and the Princess have to fly, which creates problems when the bike does not fit into the hold of an aircraft and has to be taken apart. Scott recalls one occasion when his bike had to be disman-



Eddie Scott

Later in the evening, everybody sat down at the table, weapons clearly laid out, to play a card game known as "Bicho."

Though reluctant, Scott had little choice but to join the game, and after hearing a brief explanation of the rules, he found himself winning almost every round. "I had a pile of bank notes and coins in front of me," he said. Then the captain decided it was time to go to bed. "I told them it must have been beginner's luck, apologized and offered to give them back their money. They wouldn't hear of it," Scott said. Much to his surprise, the men put away their weapons and went quietly to bed.

"It was only much later that I understood that the game had been an indirect way for these tough guys to help me with my travel,"

Scott firmly believes that if people knew each other better, there would be fewer conflicts. "Everywhere I have been, people are tired of war and nobody believes war is a way of solving political problems," says the bik-

er.

To do his bit, he is using his trip to spread the message of peace he has heard so often along the way.

"This is also a journey for the cause of peace," he explained, adding that he has written to all the heads of state who received him, from former US President Ronald Reagan to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, to Libya's Colonel Kadhafi, and even the Pope. "This is a letter of peace that expresses not only my opinion, but that of the many people I have met during my five years of travel."

During his odyssey Scott has also noticed that reality is often very different from the way situations are presented in the news media. "Take Colombia, for example. It is pictured as a country riddled with drugs, a country that is doomed along with its people. The drug problem certainly exists, but it is far from affecting the whole country, and the Colombians are some of the most charming people in the world,"

Scott said.

He adds,

"I didn't feel too comfortable," he recalls. Meals on the boat proved to be something of a contest — first come, first served — and Scott soon learned that if he wanted to eat, he had to scramble for his meal. After a few tries, he succeeded in filling his plate, which seemed to win the respect of his fellow travelers. "They started talking and asking me what I was doing on the Amazon river with my motorcycle. I told them about my childhood dream, the problems I'd had and the likely difficulties I would be facing," said Scott.

Bungy jumping — one of the last thrills

By Dean Goodwin

Reuter

QUEENSTOWN, New Zealand — Call them suicidal or just plain stupid, but thousands of visitors to this New Zealand tourist resort get their kicks by jumping 43 metres off a bridge attached only by a giant rubber band.

Bungy jumping, an often fatal ritual among the youth of the Pacific Islands of Vanuatu, was converted several years ago into a sport for the "masochists" by a daredevil New Zealander.

The exhilaration of plunging at speeds up to 160 kilometres an hour gives the jumper a rush of adrenalin and that certain "hefty-to-be-alive" feeling.

"It's the rejection of all that parental injunction to stay away from the edge," according to Simon Morton, sales manager of AJ Hackett Bungy Jumping.

"There's that inbuilt thing about height, and this for a lot of people is a chance to challenge one of their biggest fears and do it

in an environment which is 100 per cent safe ... it's the safest way to fly in the world."

Banned in some countries, but fast becoming an institution in a nation which prides itself on outdoor pursuits, bungy jumping is perhaps one of the world's last great old fashioned adventures.

"For jetboating or rafting you've got somebody there who's actually controlling the machinery. We supply the machinery but at the end of the day you've got to be the one to jump off the bridge," said Morton.

Morton's company runs two bungy-jumping operations. One is a 70-metre monster jump from the skipper's Canyon Bridge high in the mountains of New Zealand's South Island.

More than 30,000 locals and tourists ranging in age from eight to 87, have taken the plunge without injury since the operation started 19 months ago.

But in Auckland, where customers leap from a crane, a jumper died earlier this year and the

operator faces a manslaughter charge.

A.J. Hackett, who popularised the sport and earned it some notoriety by jumping off the Eiffel Tower and from the Auckland harbour bridge, now lives in Paris planning greater jumps in Europe.

The bungy jump outside Queenstown at an old railway bridge overlooks the panoramic Kawarau gorge. Swarms of intrepid customers, most of them aged between 18 and 24, hand over \$85 dollars (49 U.S. dollars) and sign a contract releasing the operator from liability.

The jumper's ankles are firmly bound with a cord the length of which depends on his weight, the air temperature and whether he wishes to hit the water. The cord is attached to a bungee — a thick cable made up of millions of rubber strands — and the calculations are double-checked.

Men are slightly more trusting, while Japanese tourists prefer to jump feet first, Morton says.

There's no time for second thoughts as loud rock music blares in the background and the attendants chirpy along first-time jumpers.

With that reassurance and the support of busloads of tourists, the jumper hobbles to the plank, takes a long look down at the chilly, swirling waters of the Kawarau River and receives the final countdown.

"Five, four, three, two, one" arms stretched and it's off with a due worthy of superman. All sense of direction is lost as the jumper hurtles toward the water at terrifying speed. Cliffs and faces become blurred and blood rushes to the head.

As the water becomes a threatening reality, the bungee reaches its full length and recoils almost to the jump-off point.

Several ever-diminishing bounces later, the jumper, thrilled with the sensation of defying gravity, is unceremoniously "dehunged" and dumped into an awaiting dinghy.

At the White House, Deputy Press Secretary Roman Popadiuk said: "We are disturbed by the number of casualties that were inflicted by the Israeli army. We have repeatedly called upon the Israeli government to exercise restraint in these situations, and our ambassador has talked with the Israeli government on this."

Spokeswoman Turwiler said the situation is "crying out for a peace process, for the preservation of hope of these people, for a process to be found to, hopefully, stop the violence..."

She said repeatedly that the United States was not seeking to place blame on the Israeli government or on Sharon "on any individual."

"What we are much more interested in is finding a way to pursue peace here so that you can avoid the violence that we're all witnessing and said. And we have urged all sides to use restraint," she said.

The United States remains committed to promoting such a political process. We believe that the initiative of the government of Israel, which the United States has been trying to implement, offers the best path to a negotiating process that would protect Israel's security, further the legitimate political rights of Palestinians, and bring about a broader reconciliation between the state of Israel and its Arab neighbours. We look forward to the quick emergence of an Israeli government that is capable of making decisions on issues of peace and is committed just as we are to moving ahead on the peace process."

Monheim said,

Earlier Wednesday, Israeli Labour leader Shimon Peres suggested that Israel should settle Soviet Jews in the Negev desert in an apparent bid to allay Arab fears over the immigration issue.

"I think to overcome a desert is less expensive than to overcome hostility. It will be by far more economic to settle (immigrants) in the middle of the 'Negev' desert," Peres told Cairo-based foreign correspondents.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Calm takes hold

Television carried statements issued by several members of the Lower House of Parliament, including Taher Al Massri, Sheikh Abu Zant, Jamal Suraikh, Abdullah Zureikat, Salim Zoubi, Atif Al Bassous and Fuad Khalafat. The central theme of the statements was an emphasis on the need to preserve national unity and appeals to the public against indulging in any activity which will shift the focus of attention away from Israeli practices against the Palestinian people in the occupied lands. The deputies also noted that any such diversion ahead of the May 28 Arab summit to be held in Baghdad will only serve the interests of the enemy.

The parliament members called on the public to return to work and respect law and order and underlined the necessity to avoid breaching guidelines set by the security forces. They also warned that the freedoms

gained in Jordan's democratization process should not be abused.

The PLO also appealed to the people to maintain unity and cohesion for "the sake of supporting the intifada and folding Israel's plots."

Peta quoted PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's advisor Bassam Abu Sharif as saying that "Jordanian-Palestinian ties are deeply rooted and the two peoples have common objectives and interests and seek the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on Palestinian soil."

"Both peoples should extend whatever support they can for the Palestinian people under occupation who will continue their uprising despite Israel's atrocities and slaughter of innocent people," Abu Sharif was quoted as saying by Peta. "Both peoples should for Israel's aim of diverting world attention from the developments inside the occupied territories."

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guaranteed by the U.N. Security Council process should not be abused.

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"The attacks on places serving alcohol and the breweries indicate that people have been filled with an ideology which throws all problems onto whiskey bottles and male hairdressers," he said.

"Most people are against the violence taking place in the country," he noted and expressed hope that "the development of democracy in the country will help us overcome these problems."

Several other deputies voiced the same sentiments and emphasized the need to preserve national unity.

Israelis bar Arab entry

Arab Jerusalem who have stopped eating since Sunday to demand international intervention to protect Palestinian lives.

Thousands of Palestinians and Lebanese marched the streets of Beirut Wednesday screaming revenge for Arabs killed in Israel.

"We're coming to get our enemy, and street and alleyway. We're coming out with stones, knives and hand grenades," yelled the demonstrators.

At least 8,000 men, many covering their heads and faces with chequered headscarves, women and children carrying rocks walked for some seven kilometers to a United Nations building on Beirut's southern outskirts.

"Down with the olive branch, let the peaceful solution be dropped. Intifada flare up," they shouted in harmony.

Most of Lebanon was paralysed Wednesday by a general strike called by leftist parties to protest at the killings.

Women carrying Palestinian flags wailed. Young girls in traditional Palestinian robes beat drums and blew bagpipes.

U.S. message stirs trouble

Egypt, Morocco and Saudi Arabia are looking for a way to avoid a war of words with Washington, they added.

The moderates felt Iraq was trying to discredit any position similar to that of Washington, they said.

"Several member states reacted very negatively to the U.S. letter. It's been pushed towards a clear and firm response," a PLO delegate told Reuters.

Now that the Iraqis have published it, it's bound to push the real issues to the sidelines and leave the Arabs arguing over how to respond," a Western diplomat commented.

She was also asked whether the United States favours a debate in the United Nations Security Council about events in Israel and whether Arafat should take part in such a debate. She had no comment.

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Economy

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, MAY 24-25, 1990

Salinas to seek free trade pact with U.S.

MEXICO CITY (Agencies) — President Carlos Salinas de Gortari accepted Senate recommendations Tuesday for a free trade agreement with the United States, but economists and advisers said it isn't likely to happen any time soon.

A U.S.-Canada free trade initiative proposed in 1985 wasn't signed until last year.

"The recommendations will be the framework in which... my administration will carry on Mexico's trade negotiations," Salinas told 55 senators at the presidential residence.

President George Bush, meanwhile in Washington, D.C., addressing a U.S. business group interested in promoting Latin American trade, said: "We, in the U.S. must do all we can to ensure the future of free markets in the Americas, because our nation has a strike in the economic health of this hemisphere."

Mexican commerce department adviser, Jaime Zabaldúa, denied reports that a partial free trade agreement would be signed when Salinas and Bush meet June 10-12.

Salinas said he would study Senate recommendations with an eye toward integrating Mexico in the changing economic world.

"Mexico will not be left out of



Carlos Salinas de Gortari
recommendations to Salinas.

the new world configuration. The speed of the changes requires decisive answers decisive answers on all fronts, in all markets," he said after receiving a list of 52 senatorial recommendations.

The recommendations also advise Salinas to take advantage of Mexico's strategic location next to the United States to expand trade with Pacific rim countries and Europe.

"We have given the president a broad mandate in all foreign trade relations," said Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairwoman Blanca Espinosa.

The 64-member Senate is the only authority that must approve presidential agreements with foreign countries.

Its recommendations were based on trade strategies proposed by academics, entrepreneurs and politicians in seven forums sponsored by the Senate at Salinas' request.

The majority of the participants said that one of the main advantages of free trade agreement between Mexico and the United States, would be a greater flow of foreign investment to Mexico due to the unbridled access to the U.S. market that Mexico would have," Senate President Maximiliano Silerio Esparza said in reading recom-

mendations to Salinas.

The recommendations were based on hopes of permanent access to the U.S. market and lowering U.S. trade barriers on agricultural, textile and cement products, Silerio Esparza said.

He said the recommendations include a transition period to let Mexican industry change to survive an onslaught of American goods onto the Mexican domestic market.

Until recently high Mexican tariffs kept out many American goods or made them more expensive than similar Mexican products. Because of a lack of foreign competition, the prices of Mexican products were in some cases artificially high.

Boesky gives details of insider trading schemes

NEW YORK (R) — Former stock speculator Ivan Boesky took the witness stand for the first time Tuesday since turning government informer to describe his key role in the largest insider trading scheme in Wall Street's history.

Boesky, 53, gave details of his crimes as he testified in the trial of John Mulheren Jr., a former arbitrator and business associate charged with 41 counts of conspiracy, securities and mail fraud and keeping false records.

The charges stem from an alleged scheme in which he helped Boesky evade net capital rules and evade income taxes. The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) requires broker-dealers to maintain a minimum amount of capital to

cover trading losses.

Prosecutors allege that Mulheren, 40, a former general partner and chief trader at the now-defunct investment firm of Jamie Securities, helped Boesky in return for inside information. Both men were arbitrators who profit by trading in securities linked to takeover situations.

Boesky, who last appeared in Manhattan Federal Court in December 1987 when he was sentenced to three years in prison for securities fraud, testified that his stock trading company had lost a lot of money on a securities investment in 1982. He said the firm was in danger of violating net capital rules and might even go out of business.

"I told him (Mulheren) about... the capital problem we had,"

Boesky said. "He basically helped us save our company."

The government alleges that Mulheren let Boesky park stock at his firm to make it appear that Boesky had sold the securities giving him sufficient capital. Parking is a strategy in which one party holds stock for another to conceal the securities' true ownership.

One a top arbitrator on Wall Street, Boesky ended his trading career in November 1986 by settling securities and Exchange Commission insider trading charges by paying \$100 million and agreeing to cooperate with authorities.

He also pleaded guilty to one criminal charge relating to the filing of false records with the SEC.

U.S. aircraft giants join Europe Concorde study

PARIS (R) — U.S. aircraft makers Boeing and McDonnell Douglas have joined a Western European study to develop a 21st century version of the Anglo-French supersonic Concorde airliner, Aerospatiale of France said Wednesday.

The two U.S. giants and Deutsche Airbus of West Germany had agreed to join Aerospatiale and British Aerospace PLC (BAE) to evaluate the new airliner, the French firm said.

Aerospatiale and BAE said May 9 they planned to replace Concorde, the only supersonic airliner in commercial service, but said it needed input from others in the industry.

The new aircraft would fly farther and slightly faster and more quietly and cheaply than the more than 20 years old original, which can fly at 2.3 times the speed of sound.

Super-concorde would streak from Paris to Tokyo in five hours, less than half the flight time of conventional aircraft, and carry at least 200 passengers — double Concorde's capacity.

Announcing the deal with British Aerospace, Aerospatiale Chairman Henry Matre, said on May 9 international cooperation was essential to the success of the \$11 billion project.

"There is very strong demand for a successor to Concorde," Matre said, though he warned that the market could not sustain two or more rival versions of a supersonic passenger jet.

Aerospatiale said in Wednesday's statement the viability of the project depended on overcoming environmental questions, and the huge investment needed.

The five companies, which

together account for virtually all significant western airliner production, had agreed to conduct general studies over the next year, Aerospatiale said.

Studies would cover prospects for international cooperation in developing the aircraft and the market for supersonic flights as well as regulatory approval for the proposed aircraft.

The market for supersonic flights would also be studied, as well as certification standards for the proposed aircraft.

Matre has said British and French designers with Concorde experience lead the way, but "the club is open" if Americans, Japanese, Germans or the Soviet Union want to join in.

Aerospatiale said in Wednesday's statement the viability of the project depended on overcoming environmental questions, and the huge investment needed.

The five companies, which

have been involved in the proposed aircraft's development.

In 1992, Renault is due to enter into a cross-shareholding pact with Swedish auto maker AB Volvo. Sir Leon said he did not see major difficulties with that arrangement.

Renault is fully owned by the French government and received the aid in the form of debt relief in 1988.

At the time, the EC agreed to waive its rules against state aids provided Renault cut its car output by 15 per cent and that of trucks by 30 per cent.

Colombia economy thrives despite drugs and violence

By Andrew Hurst

BOGOTA — Colombia, caught in a bloody tug-of-war between the government and powerful cocaine barons, has defied all odds to emerge as one of Latin America's most successful economies.

As the country heads towards a general election Sunday threatened by assassinations and bombs, financial analysts are at loss to explain just how the economy keeps going.

They are puzzled by Colombia's resilience in the face of violence from a left-wing guerrilla insurgency and murderous paramilitary groups along with drug barons who nine months ago declared war on the state because of its anti-drug drive.

"It's a very curious phenomenon and nobody knows quite how to explain it," an economist with an international agency said.

The degree to which money from cocaine trafficking has contributed to Colombia's economic buoyancy is also hotly debated by analysts.

But now violence, which appears on occasions to threaten a complete collapse of law and

order, may finally be starting to take its toll on the economy, analysts said.

Colombia has been relatively unscathed by the debt crisis that brought many Latin American economies to their knees.

Instead, it enjoys a rate of growth that was the envy of its neighbours in the 1980s. But this now shows signs of faltering.

Gross domestic product (GDP), which measures output of goods and services, grew by 3.2 per cent last year, down from 3.7 per cent in 1988. Up until the mid-1980s, annual growth had rarely fallen below five per cent for two decades. Inflation, at around 25 per cent a year, is low, at regional standards.

The liberal government of outgoing President Virgilio Barco has responded by embarking on a cautious programme of opening up the economy, one of the most protectionist in the region.

Protective import tariffs are gradually being lowered in an effort to prepare industry for fierce international competition.

Some analysts believe the country's economic stability has saved Colombia from collapsing into a state of near anarchy.

Unlike in a country such as

Egypt proposes new step toward unifying rates

CAIRO (R) — Egypt proposed Wednesday a major step toward unifying its multi-tiered currency exchange rate, a key International Monetary Fund (IMF) demand that could make it easier to detect the cost of its massive hidden subsidies to the poor.

The IMF wants exchange rate reform as part of negotiations to provide stand-by credits to Egypt, burdened with a total foreign debt of around \$50 billion.

Finance Minister Mohamed Al Razaz told the People's Assembly (parliament) the government planned a sharp decrease in the "central bank" exchange rate used to value key commodity imports sold to

the public.

The move, which the assembly must approve, would push down the pound at of July 1 to 2.00 to the dollar from the present 1.10, but leave it substantially below the black market rate of around 2.72.

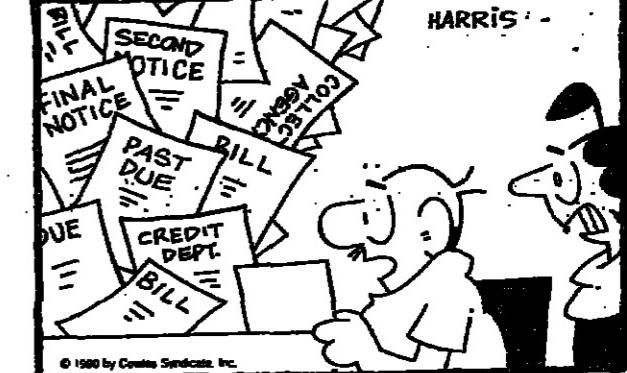
Under the current system, important exports such as oil, cotton and Suez Canal revenue are denominated at the central bank rate. The government then applies these revenues to import commodities at the same artificial rate for resale to the public.

The rate thus understates the value of important exports and the cost of key imports, the IMF argues that any subsidies should be paid directly through the budget.

The rate thus understates the value of important exports and the cost of key imports, the IMF argues that any subsidies should be paid directly through the budget.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"We've got extra money this month.
I sold your college diary
for \$2 a page."

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

GIERT

EVIRT

DOCEED

LARPOR

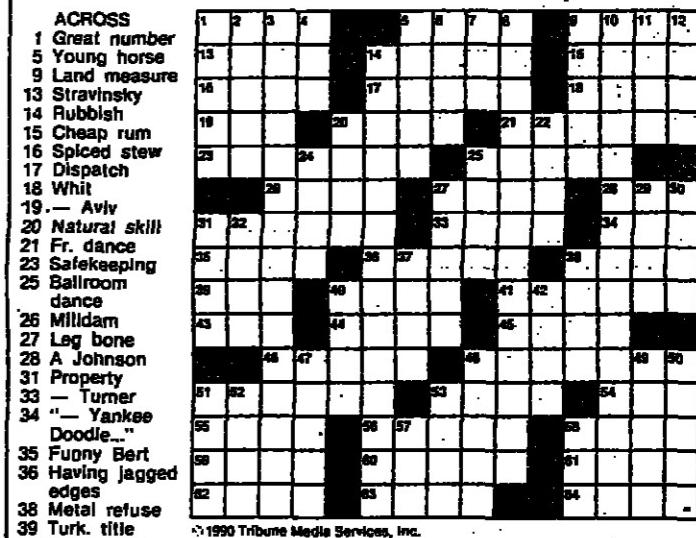


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise word, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Yesterday's Jumble: CRAZY MAKER LATEST SOTHE
Answer: What loafers lack—SHOELACES

THE Daily Crossword

by Rita M. Campbell



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, MAY 24, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The New Moon in Gemini offers you a special benefit if you are working at your office, place of business or on the road. You can easily gain the good will of others.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19)

The daytime brings to light some very advantageous changes that you can make by adapting a new plan and the evening show how to implement details correctly.

Taurus: (April 20 to May 20)

Look into every possible source for ways to make your hours more productive and then scope those that fit in with your own ambitious undertaking.

Gemini: (May 21 to June 21)

Join forces in deciding a mutual course with one of outside importance and then in the evening you can get into the actual organization required.

Monsoon Children: (June 22 to July 21)

This is the time to scan newspapers etc, for hints how best to do your activities better and outside contacts will be helpful in evening.

Leo: (July 22 to August 21)

A day to decide, how you can best use your talent and charm to be of service to those less fortunate and in the evening schedule efforts for the coming time.

Pisces: (February 20 to March 20)

You have some new course by which you can be able to reach greater heights of achievement so pursue those in positive manner.

Virgo: (August 22 to September 22)

Your home should be the centre of your activity and be sure

you find out what your own family desires, tonight take them to some entertainment.

Libra: (September 23 to October 22)

Whatever studies open your consciousness to a better way of life are just right during the daytime and tonight your own residence is the place to be.

Scorpio: (October 23 to November 21)

A day to take a good look at your property and possessions and to decide just what you can do to improve them while tonight, organize actual repairs.

Sagittarius: (November 22 to December 21)

Now you have the

Uruguay beats England

WEMBLEY, England (AP) — Uruguay snappet England's 17-game unbeaten run with a 2-1 victory Tuesday in a World Cup warmup game at the home of English soccer.

A goal in each half by Santiago Ostolaza and Jose Perdomo sandwiched a spectacular strike for England by John Barnes as England lost for the first time since the 1988 European championships.

World Cup-bound Uruguay, which lost 1-0 non-qualifier Northern Ireland Friday, went ahead at 26 minutes when Ostolaza took advantage of an error by England's veteran goalie, 40-year-old Peter Shilton, who was playing his 117th game for his country.

Barnes tied it at 51 minutes, but Shilton was beaten again 10 minutes later by Perdomo off a free kick.

With the World Cup 17 days away, both teams played well.

England, which had two penalty claims turned down, merited a tie from a polished showing in front of 38,751 of its own fans before departing for Italy.

Uruguay showed many aspects of skill, took its goals well and defended firmly against an England side which recently had tied with Italy and Brazil, the two favourites to win the World Cup.

England manager Bobby Robson again fielded Barnes as a front runner with Gary Lineker, and the move almost created a goal two minutes into the game.

Rightback Paul Parker curled

in a centre that eluded the Uruguayan defence and Barnes was unable to stretch his leg far enough to prod the ball into the net.

The Uruguayan team was slow, deliberate and patient in its build-up and its only goal attempts in the first quarter of the game were long-range shots from Perdomo that flew high and wide.

England also needed to be patient but looked composed and elegant in its forward moves.

On 23 minutes, Perdomo cleared two yards (metres) from his own goal-line after a corner by Paul Gascoigne was flicked toward the goal by Terry Butcher. And then England leftback Stuart Pearce unleashed a left-footed free kick that goalkeeper Eduardo Pereira blocked just inside the stretching Pereira and inside the post after diving full length to his right.

But as England turned up the heat, it was scalded by a Uruguayan goal.

Enzo Francescoli neatly slipped the ball left to Antonio Alzamendi who centered quickly with the England defence retreating. England goalkeeper Shilton raced off his line and Ostolaza saw his chance to send a looping header over the goalie into an empty net.

Uruguay should have gone further ahead on the half hour when Ruben Sosa set up a clear shooting chance for Alzamendi who tried to return the pass instead of firing towards goal.

England claimed a penalty just before halftime when Barnes was

pushed in the back by Francescoli as he leaped for a centering pass. The claim was waved away by Italian referee Pietro d'Elia, but a minute before the break Gascoigne had a free kick and powered the ball a yard (metre) too high from just outside the centre-field fence, to give Oakland its win over Toronto.

Six minutes after halftime, a stunning goal tied the game.

Gascoigne's crossfield pass put Pearce in the open down the left flank and the fullback's centre found Barnes on the edge of Uruguay's penalty area.

The Liverpool winger, top scorer with 28 goals in English league soccer last season, curled a left-footed shot around the stretching Pereira and inside the post after diving full length to his right.

As Uruguay pressed, a shot from Francescoli struck Gascoigne, and Shilton had to change direction quickly to save at the foot of the post.

But he was beaten in the 61st minute when Perdomo launched a powerful left-footed free kick that brushed his fingernails a seven-footer as the Milwaukee Brewers edged the Seattle Mariners 3-2 Tuesday.

Glenn Bragg and Charlie O'Brien singled off Bill Swift (2-1) with one out in the ninth. Spiers, facing Keith Comstock, batted a single over the head of first baseman Alvin Davis to score Bragg with the winning run.

Kudson (3-1) struck out three and walked one in his first complete game of the season. He is 3-0 lifetime against Seattle.

Paul Molitor drove in Milwaukee's first two runs with a second-inning double. Seattle scored in the third on Greg Briley's sacrifice fly and in the fourth on Ken Griffey Jr.'s 10th homer of the season.

In New York, Bob Geren snapped out of a 2-for-29 slump with a three-run homer, and the New York Yankees beat the Chicago White Sox in a game interrupted by an animated argument between Carlton Fisk and rookie Deion Sanders.

Before Sanders batted leading off the sixth, he and Fisk exchanged words at home and were separated by plate umpire John Hirschbeck.

Players from both benches and the bullpens streamed slowly onto the field and gathered near home plate while Fisk, 42, and Sanders, 22, exchanged words.

No punches were thrown and the matter was settled within a minute. At one point, Sanders appeared to move his bat toward

Canseco slam powers A's over Toronto

TORONTO (AP) — Jose Canseco hit the first regular-season grand slam of his career, a tie-breaking shot onto the roof of a restaurant beyond the centre-field fence, to give Oakland its win over Toronto.

The sixth-inning blast off Frank Wills (3-2) was the 15th homer of the year for Canseco, whose only other major league grand slam came against the Los Angeles Dodgers in the opening game of the 1988 world series.

Canseco also had an RBI single in the fourth.

Toronto got all its runs on two solo homers by Kelly Gruber and one each by Manny Lee and Junior Felix. Curt Young (2-1) allowed three runs in 5 1-3 innings for the win. Dennis Eckersley pitched the ninth for his 11th save.

In Milwaukee, Bill Spiers' pinch-hit single drove in the winning run in the bottom of the ninth and Mark Kudson pitched a seven-hitter as the Milwaukee Brewers edged the Seattle Mariners 3-2 Tuesday.

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Graziano dies

NEW YORK (R) — Former world middleweight champion Rocky Graziano died in New York of heart and lung failure Tuesday, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Graziano, 68, had been in New York hospital since suffering a stroke on April 8.

Graziano won the middleweight crown at the age of 25 on July 16, 1947 in Chicago in the second of three legendary fights with Tony Zale.

He lost the title back to Zale on their third meeting nearly a year later.

But the ferocity of those fights and Graziano's transformation from street punk to world champion were too good for Hollywood to pass up and he was immortalized in the 1956 film "Somebody Up There Likes Me" with Paul Newman playing Graziano.

Graziano attempted to regain the middleweight crown in 1952, but was knocked out by Sugar Ray Robinson in the third round and retired later that year.

He had a professional record of 67-10-6 and was elected to the boxing Hall of Fame in 1971.

Following his retirement from boxing, Graziano, with his thick New York accent, became a familiar television personality. He made numerous commercials and was a regular on the talk show circuit.

Boxing historian and editor of Boxing Illustrated magazine, Bert Sugar, considers Graziano one of the most exciting fighters of all time.

"As a performer he always gave 150 percent," Sugar said.

Sugar spoke of Graziano's upbringing in poverty on Manhattan's lower east side, a notoriously tough neighbourhood.

"He came from an area of the city where both sides of the tracks were wrong and he saved himself through boxing."

Steinlager 2 wins Whitbread race

SOUTHAMPTON, England (AP) — The yacht Steinlager 2 was serenaded by jazz bands, fireworks and New Zealand's national anthem, as it won the final leg of the 33,932-nautical mile Whitbread Round the World Race Tuesday, completing its sweep of all six legs.

Some also struggled to keep afloat financially during the quadrennial endeavour, estimated to cost \$10 million per yacht.

The only U.S. yacht entered in the race, a ship with an all-woman crew, had to drop out on the first day of competition because of a lack of funds. The race was the Finnish vessel Mar-tela, which capsized going around Cape Horn.

The Soviet yacht Fazit, which is expected to reach port later this week, needed fundraisers in at least two ports to keep going. It also was struck by tragedy when its skipper, Alexei Gryshenko, wandered away from port in Punta Del Este, Uruguay, in October and was found two days later hanging from a tree.

The other death occurred at sea. Anthony Phillips of the British ship Creighton naturally was swept overboard and never regained consciousness after spending 47 minutes in the cold, stormy Atlantic Ocean in November.

The custom-built yachts sailed from Southampton to Punta Del Este, then went east to Australia and New Zealand. They continued east back to Punta Del Este in February and stopped in Fort Lauderdale before heading back to England.

The 300 sailors slept in four-hour shifts and ate freeze-dried meals while battling 50-foot (15-metre) waves and icebergs. Built for speed, the ships provided few luxuries.

Six U.S. cities want to stage '94 World Cup final

NEW YORK (R) — Six U.S. cities have expressed an interest in staging the 1994 World Cup soccer final, the World Cup '94 organizing committee said Tuesday.

Dallas, Los Angeles, Miami, Washington D.C., Kansas City and Seattle have all told the committee that they would like to have the final in their city, Scott Letellier, president of the committee, said in a nationwide telephone conference call.

Letellier added that other cities might also decide to enter the competition to host the final by

the deadline for bids on December 10.

"Six cities have expressed an interest in staging the final," said Letellier, whose committee is supervising arrangements for the first World Cup to be held in the United States.

"An indication of the surging interest in the World Cup is that the number of communities that have contacted us has now risen to 27, whereas in 1989 it was just 15," he said.

He said that 26 of the cities would be sending delegations to Italy next month for this year's

World Cup, including the mayors of Kansas City, Dallas and Pasadena, California, the secretary of state of Florida and Tom Landry, the legendary coach of the Dallas Cowboys National Football League team who is a leading member of his city's World Cup committee.

Letellier told a questioner that the United States should have an easier time than Italy in preparing a playing surface up to World Cup standards.

He said most U.S. sites under consideration were used mostly for American football, which is played in the autumn, whereas Italy was using stadiums used continuously for league soccer.

A skilled declarer would be concerned about the possibility of a 4-1 club break. Since four club tricks are probably needed for the contract, he also would play the jack from dummy on the opening lead, but would jettison the king under East's ace! A heart switch or spade continuation would only help declarer, so let's suppose East shifts to a diamond. Declarer wins in dummy with the queen and takes the club finesse. When that wins, the table is entered with ace of diamonds and the club finesse is repeated.

Since West was unlikely to have led a low spade from four low cards in the suit, declarer can almost surely get to the board a third time with the ten of spades. That is the key entry to permit a third club finesse and bring home the game.

For information about Charles Goren's newsletter for bridge players, write Goren Bridge Letter, P.O. Box 4426, Orlando, Fla. 32802-4426.

Opening lead: Three of ♠ It is not very complicated hands that set the expert apart from the average player. It is his ability to find an extra chance, however slight, that proves his mettle.

The auction has a pretty point—North's one-diamond response. With no four-card suit and no reason to want to declare no trump, North chose to make a waiting bid in his hardy three-card minor. As a result, the stronger hand became declarer and was shielded from the opening lead.

The average player would put up the jack from dummy at the first

trick, losing to East's ace. On the spade return, he might play low just in case East held the queen as well, and then perform with the third trick with the king of spades. He would use his two diamond entries to dummy to take club finesse. Both would succeed but, when West showed out on the second club, eight tricks would be the limit of the hand.

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The average player would put up the jack from dummy at the first

GOREN BRIDGE

With OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

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LOOK FOR THE SILVER LINING

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♦ J 10 7
♥ 10 4 3
♦ A Q 9
♣ 8 6 5 3

EAST

♦ Q 9 5 3
♥ 6 5 2
♦ K 9 7
♣ 8 6 4 3

SOUTH

♦ K 6 4
♥ A J 8
♦ K J 10
♣ A Q J 10

PASS

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 NT Pass 3 NT Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♠

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NATO ministers call for quick East-West pact to slash troops

BRUSSELS (AP) — NATO defence ministers Wednesday called for a quick East-West accord to slash troops, tanks and other non-nuclear arms in Europe to wipe out the chances of a surprise attack by the Soviet Union.

Western officials have complained in recent weeks of Soviet foot-dragging at the Vienna negotiations on a conventional arms agreement.

British Defence Secretary Tom King Tuesday raised the possibility that a deal would not be reached this year.

The defence chiefs, winding up two days of talks at the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), said in a final statement that an accord, along with other security measures, "will virtually eliminate the possibility of a surprise attack on NATO as a whole by vastly superior conventional forces."

Negotiators for the 16 nations of NATO and the seven of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact are bargaining in Vienna to slash the numbers of troops, tanks and other non-nuclear arms in Europe.

Moscow and Washington already have settled on a plan to trim their forces to 195,000 for each side in Central Europe, with the United States retaining an

additional 30,000 in Britain and southern Europe.

Further cuts in the number of European soldiers will likely be made in later arms talks.

The officials meeting in Brussels said they also decided to "lower the readiness and availability" of some of their forces.

They noted they have already reduced the number of military exercises for their soldiers and planned to make "further substantial reductions" in the training programmes.

"This will reduce the impact on the public, will benefit the quality of life and protect the environment," they said.

Many of these exercises are conducted in West Germany, where residents have grown increasingly opposed to having their lands overrun by tanks and being subjected to noise from low-level flights.

The ministers also called for a review of military strategy in light of the dramatically reduced East-West tensions and asked military authorities to look into forming

multinational forces.

They confirmed they have scrapped a guideline, in effect since the late 1970s, calling for a 3 per cent annual increase in defence spending by each alliance nation.

The target, they said, was "no longer appropriate, although expenditure plans will continue to need to reflect particular national circumstances."

Many nations have failed in recent years to reach that goal.

No deadline was set for military analysts to come up with a review of the military strategy.

They may be given more guidelines for the study at London's summit of alliance leaders in July.

U.S. President George Bush earlier this month urged that the summit participants launch a "wide-ranging" NATO strategy review for the transformed Europe of the 1990s.

The defence ministers work on the military components of NATO's strategy will fit into the overall review.

The alliance is under pressure to respond to the momentous changes in Eastern Europe by emphasising its role as a political organisation rather than a military pact.

NATO is battling some calls in Europe that it — and the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact — be scrapped

and replaced by an umbrella security organisation formed from the conference on security and cooperation in Europe, a 35-nation forum for discussions on human rights and other issues.

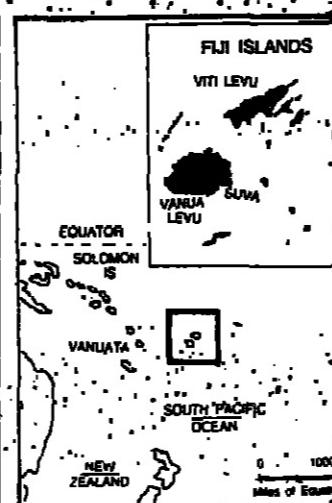
Officials said the defence study should look at a host of the West's long-held military practices, including maintaining a mix of conventional and nuclear weapons, training exercises and the "forward defence" policy.

"Forward defence" refers to the stationing of troops to defend the front line during an attack so that no territory is lost to invading forces. The border between East and West Germany, soon to be wiped out, has long been part of the front line.

Officials said they would like France, which is outside the alliance's joint military command, to take part in the studies.

Negotiators for the 16 nations of NATO and the seven of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact are bargaining in Vienna to slash the numbers of troops, tanks and other non-nuclear arms in Europe.

All 16 nations, except France, attend the meetings of the Defence Planning Committee. France is not a member of the joint military structure. Iceland, which has no armed forces, attends as an observer.



Lithuanians told to brace for siege

MOSCOW (AP) — Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis Wednesday encouraged residents to combat with "unity and stamina" the 5-week-old economic embargo meant to quell the republic's independence drive.

"We are poor but we'll not starve to death," Landsbergis said in a speech reported by the Lithuanian News Agency ELTA. "Our main weapon is unity and stamina."

The Kremlin's aim is to cause riots in Lithuania and make the republic surrender, he said. "But Lithuania will not capitulate. Our strategic task is to prepare the public so that we could survive as though we were in a surrounded fortress."

Landsbergis and other Baltic leaders have said they are willing to compromise but will not surrender their goal of seceding. Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev insisted that Lithuania and its sister republics of Latvia and Estonia retreat from independence-seeking territories.

In an apparent reference to the superpower summit later this month, they called on President George Bush to invite the Soviet Union to start talks about the republics' independence.

The appeal was issued at the end of a seminar on Baltic independence and signed by Estonia's Foreign Minister Lemnart Meri, Latvian Vice President Dainis Ivans and Lithuanian Vice President Ceslovas Stankevicius.

They also appealed to the 35 countries in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) to "integrate the Baltic republics in their economic assistance programmes, so that they may soon become equal, democratic, healthy neighbours in a common European house."

The United States, Canada and all European countries except Albania take part in the CSCE process.

Earlier, Lithuania's vice president said townspeople may be evacuated to the countryside to conserve energy and food, as his republic suffers "tremendous losses" from Moscow's economic sanctions.

Korean student's funeral turned into anti-U.S. rally

KWANGJU, South Korea (AP) — Radical students shouting anti-government and anti-U.S. slogans marched through Kwangju Wednesday behind the coffin of a student activist heralded as a martyr and patriot.

"Drive out Yankees," students shouted. "Crush (President) Roh Tae-Woo."

Riot police armed with clubs and shields were deployed around government offices and along major downtown streets to deter violence. Traffic on streets came to a stop as the procession went some time later this year.

The Fijian expulsion order, which criticised the campaign, also said India had decided to ban trade with Fiji and oppose Fiji's re-admission to the British Commonwealth.

Sreenivasan was also expelled for alleged interference in Fijian affairs.

Ethnic Indians, descendants of sugar workers brought to the islands by the British last century, are slightly outnumbered by Fijians in the 727,000 population.

Major General Sitiveni Rabuka staged two military coups in 1987, the first being triggered by the success in a general election of the Indian-dominated coalition government of the late Tjomei Nasavdra.

The unelected interim government was set up after the second coup in September 1987 when Fiji was declared a republic.

Quebec calmly contemplates breakup of Canada

Montreal (R) — As Quebecers went about their business, grumbling about the cold weather, there was little to show that this was not just any day but a key moment in bringing the province closer to separating from Canada.

"The desire for sovereignty is still there, but the emotion isn't," said Pierre Fournier, a political scientist with the University of Quebec in Montreal.

"If Lithuania gets its independence 20 years down the road, they (the Lithuanians) will still want it, but they won't be so excited anymore," he said.

There is none of the rage that fuelled the independence efforts of the early 1970s, when separatist radicals killed a Quebec labour minister, abducted the British trade commissioner in Montreal and planted letter bombs.

Nor is there the economic self-doubt that made Quebecers hesitate and ultimately vote against "sovereignty-association" in the 1980 referendum held exactly 10 years ago last Sunday.

The emotional campaigns leading up to the referendum tore apart French Canadian families and wrecked friendships, as the country is watching to see if others will follow suit.

Many Quebecers view their province as a neglected spouse, with little choice but to walk out of a long, unsatisfying marriage.

Since then, Quebecers have been unwittingly united by Ottawa's failure to make good on its promise that if Quebec stayed in the confederation, the government would satisfy some of the province's demands through the Meech Lake Accord.

The accord appears headed for failure as English Canada tinkers with it, adding "last-minute" changes to mollify the three of 10 provinces that refuse to ratify it in its present form.

Quebec's politicians meanwhile are mulling what kind of relationship they should establish with English Canada after the June 23 deadline for signing of the accord.

The province, home to most

of the six million French Canadians, has acquired a sense of confidence after undergoing an entrepreneurial revolution in the mid-1980s that Quebec business leaders believe has left it econo-

mically able to survive a divorce from Canada.

Recent polls show a majority of Quebecers favour sovereignty with some economic ties to English Canada, while a significant number — around 40 per cent — would vote for full independence.

Indeed, a growing number of Canadians, in both English and French Canada, worry that English Canada would fare worse in a divorce and that some of the provinces — particularly the poorer Atlantic ones — would be drawn into the United States.

While some Quebecers chuckle at the prospect of seeing their insensitive English-speaking cousins get their just desserts, the underlying feeling is sadness that a 130-year relationship could not be salvaged.

"There is now a great disillusionment, profound sadness in many places when (Quebecers) realise that in English Canada, they are not very well accepted as they are, as a distinct society," said Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa in a television interview.

COLUMN

Smokers who quit on their own are 'more successful'

CHICAGO (R) — Cigarette smokers who quit on their own are nearly twice as successful at quitting but the habit as those who join an organised programme to do it, researchers have said. In addition, those who stop smoking immediately have a better chance of ending the habit than those who try to taper off, said the study from the Department of Medicine at the University of Wisconsin. Researchers said a review of people who tried to stop smoking during a 10-year period, found that 47.5 per cent who did it on their own were successful compared to only 23.6 per cent of those who joined a programme aimed at stopping.

Kremlin sends historic silver to London

LONDON (AP) — The Kremlin is sending historic English silver for exhibition in London, auctioneers Sotheby's said. The earliest silver pieces were given to Ivan the Terrible by English merchants encouraged to trade with Russia by Queen Elizabeth I who reigned 1558-1603. The silver is insured for £10 million (£17 million) and will be on show Jan. 31 at Sotheby's headquarters on New Bond Street. The silver will return to Moscow when the show ends. The highlight of the exhibit will be a 1-metre high silver-gilt snow leopard made in London about 1600 to hold wine. The 23 other items include flagons, dishes, salt cellars and cups.

Police nab suspect in gay killings

FRANKFURT (R) — Police hunting a serial killer of homosexuals and vagrants said they had arrested a man carrying a sledge hammer and a knife, who had told them he took orders "from the beyond." A spokesman said the 50-year-old man was suspected of six murders and two attempted murders that have terrorised Frankfurt's gay and homeless communities since February. The city prosecutor's office said the suspect, an unemployed electrician who was not immediately named, was arrested after a 59-year-old homeless man was admitted to a hospital with severe head wounds. The police spokesman said the suspect carried a plastic bag containing a blood-stained sledge hammer and a knife, both believed to be murder weapons. Police had no clear motive, but the suspect had said he was acting "on instructions from the beyond."

Oxford scholar wins \$150,000 religious award

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky — Oxford University scholar E.D. Sanders was named the winner of the first \$150,000 Grawemeyer Award in religion for his book Jesus and Judaism, judges said. Sanders, an American who has been professor of Biblical exegesis or interpretation at Oxford since 1984, was chosen from 53 entrants for his 1985 book, which judges said promoted better understanding between Judaism and Christianity by exploring the Jewish roots of Christianity. Dr. Sanders explores a simple but profound idea. Jesus was very much inside one of the major streams of Jewish thought of his day and he is not to be understood in opposition to Judaism," the awards panel said.

5,500 mentally retarded people sterilised in China

PEKING (AP) — China's first province to approve a mandatory sterilisation law for the mentally retarded performed 5,500 operations in the 14 months after the law took effect, an official report said. Officials in the northwestern province of Gansu said that despite fierce opposition from the People's Daily newspaper, said. Since the law was enacted in January 1989, Gansu has set up a diagnostic network and required examination for all couples planning to marry. It also has sent teams out to villages with large numbers of mentally retarded people to do ideological work among the relatives and guardians. Arid, remote Gansu, one of China's poorest regions, has several large concentrations of mentally and physically handicapped people, due in part to inbreeding in isolated villages.